

JPRS 84355

19 September 1983

Near East/South Asia Report

No. 2824

FBIS

FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

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JAPAN AGREES TO FUND COAL-POWERED PLANT

Cairo THE EGYPTIAN GAZETTE in English 23 Aug 83 p 2

[Text] The Japanese government has agreed to finance the first stage of building a coal-powered electricity generating station at Elion Moussa, on the Gulf of Suez, according to the Chairman of Egypt's Electricity Authority, Mr Abdul Hamid el-Sayed.

Mr El-Sayed said the 500 million dollar project will utilise coal from the Sinai mines, and is expected to have a maximum capacity of 600,000 kilowatts/hour which will be enough to cover the electricity needs of the projects planned for Sinai.

Following his meeting with representatives of the Japanese International Aid Agency in Cairo yesterday, Mr El-Sayed also said that Japanese and Egyptian experts cooperated to prepare a technical report and feasibility study for this project. He added that the Japanese Aid Agency financed this six month study at a cost of two million dollars.

The Chairman of the Authority said that work will be started soon on the project, which he emphasised will depend on the large quantities of coal from the Sinai for its operation coal reserves in the Sinai are estimated at 50 million tons. He added that the first stage of the station will be operating before the end of the five-year development plan.

"When the first stage of the project is completed, more than one million tons of petroleum, required to generate an equivalent quantity of power, will be saved," said Mr El-Sayed. He added that this large quantity of petroleum can be sold overseas at a net profit of 60 million dollars after paying for the coal needed to run the power station.

Technical studies have revealed that the second stage of the project can double the capacity of the station, and they also showed that coal instead of petroleum operated plants can save up to one-third in operating costs, Mr El-Sayed pointed out, adding that the project will be the first of its type in Egypt.--GSS

CSO: 4500/267

COUNTRY EXPECTED TO NEED 2.8 MILLION MORE WORKERS BY 1985

Cairo THE EGYPTIAN GAZETTE in English 15 Aug 83 p 2

[Text] The number of workers required in the country by 1985 is expected to increase by 2,839,454 including, those required for expansions in existing activities, those who will replace retirees within the next two years and others who will meet the needs of labour demand abroad, according to experts at the Ministry of Manpower and Vocational Training based on a study of future market needs and a survey of the present labour situation.

From the total number required, 1,816,600 workers will be needed to meet the expansion in all fields of activity under the five year social and economic development plan. Replacement of people expected to go on pension or from death will require 693,854 workers.

Three hundred and thirty thousand workers shall be required to cover the needs of Arab and foreign labour demand. The official sources at the Ministry said that such a number covers the needs of emigration for work abroad.

The Ministry of Manpower's study also classified the projected needs in accordance with specialisations. For instance, the number required for technical and scientific professions is expected to reach 509,995. Directors, administrative clerks and entrepreneurs would amount to 62,090 persons.

About 446,000 people shall be needed for services while the production sector workers would amount to about 650,000. In the field of agriculture, live-stock breeding and fishing 498,701 workers will be required.

To train the required numbers of workers the government is paying more attention to technical education and vocational training programmes. Institutes and centres for training on the crafts are affiliated to major industrial firms and complexes.--GSS

CSO: 4500/267

SURVEY OF EGYPTIAN LABOR FORCE ABROAD, PROSPECTS FOR FUTURE

Caire AL-AHRAM AL-IQTISADI in Arabic No 748, 16 May 83 pp 12, 13

[Interview with Dr 'Abd-al-Fattah Munji, acting director of Institute for National Planning by Al-Ahram Al-Iqtisadi: "Dr 'Abd-al-Fattah Munji: New Development State for Arab Petroleum States; Demand for Egyptian Industrial Labor Expected to Increase"; date and place not specified]

[Text] In this interview, Dr 'Abd-al-Fattah Munji, acting director of the Institute for National Planning, talks about anticipated changes in the labor market in the Arab petroleum states after the drop in petroleum production and prices.

Dr Munji is submitting several proposals to the responsible agencies in Egypt to contain the petroleum crisis and turn it into a motivating force which the Egyptian economy can utilize or reduce the size of the anticipated negative effects.

Dr Munji first discussed the size of the Egyptian work force in the Arab petroleum states. He said: "None of the statistics and studies available locally and internationally give a true picture of the size of the Egyptian labor force abroad in general and in the Arab Gulf region in particular, with regard to quantity or type. All that is available is a group of estimates based on limited field studies, meaning that there is no complete survey of the labor force in the Arab labor markets. It should be noted that there is a great disparity between estimates, and this disparity casts doubt on their reliability. However, the truth is that there are large numbers of Egyptian workers in the Arab petroleum states, especially in the Arab Gulf region, to a degree that requires more study and accuracy to learn future expectations."

Unknown Numbers!

Dr Munji adds: "Nevertheless, if we started in 1960 we would have a source on which we could rely: the 1960 census. At the time there were few workers abroad, and their fields of occupation were limited. Most were elementary and secondary school teachers, as well as some doctors.

"The 1976 census shows that the number of Egyptian workers abroad and their percentage with respect to the entire work force had increased by a very large

percentage, after the rise in oil prices after the 1973 war and after the Arab oil states embarked on an ambitious development program represented basically in two aspects:

"First: Basic construction projects including roads, sewers, electricity, cities and others. Second: Reviving the idea of preparing regional cadres in each region to replace imported labor.

"Hence, there has been interest in expanding all fields of education, especially construction of universities. These two activities have produced a sudden demand for labor not available locally in most of these states and for specific types necessary to implement development programs, in the preceding two fields in particular. Hence the need has appeared for types of workers such as construction workers, professionals, university professors and others. The common characteristic among most of the Arab states importing labor was that the main source of these groups was Egypt because of its population and scientific weight.

"During this stage, the political danger of these Egyptian communities became clear to many of these states since they expected, for example, a strike or demands for rights and privileges. Consequently, the idea arose of resorting to pairing imported Arab and non-Arab labor. The non-Arab labor appeared to be mainly Asians, but it was clear from the experience of several of these states that resorting to Asian labor was not completely successful because of the absence of a common language between the workers and the residents. Also, it was clear that they had effects on the native people, and in some of these states crimes appeared following the examples of the Asian work force.

"Thus, the trend toward Asian labor has begun to disappear in the early Eighties, meaning that the average increase in this labor has begun to decline."

Egyptian Labor Regains Its Position

Dr Munji says: "According to previous indicators and as a result of the limitations of other Arab labor markets in quantity and quality, in all cases in all other Arab states linked to Egypt, Egyptian labor has started to regain its primary position in the Arab states at the beginning of the Eighties. Starting from 1982, most of the Arab oil-exporting states were on the verge of completing their basic construction projects, and they also were preparing a percentage of the local labor necessary for some work, such as university professors, doctors, teachers, and higher administrators.

"Then these states started to think about the next stage of development, represented primarily by an attempt to set up production projects. In Qatar there is a Center for Industrial Development for the Gulf States. In Saudi Arabia there is the Arab Investment Company. There are industrial zones in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, and in the states of North Africa there is a trend toward establishing agricultural industrial projects. In the Gulf states, a bloc was created to establish joint projects among the Gulf states."

New Development Stage

[Question] Then when the price of oil fell, what happened?

[Answer] These states entered a different development stage just as petroleum prices fell, but there was capital available. However, these states had actually completed basic construction projects.

[Question] What are your expectations?

[Answer] In light of the new circumstances there are three basic changes:

First: Entry of the Arab oil states into a development stage characterized basically by starting production projects with no local labor available to build, operate and administer them.

Second: Lower returns from petroleum because of lower prices and lower production.

Third: Disappearance of Asian labor.

Other Types of Labor

In accordance with these changes, the following are expected:

1. It is known that the ratio between investments and labor in basic construction projects is higher by far than in production projects, and consequently it is expected that the total size of the work force needed in the Arab states will be lower in the intermediate future, that is, within 4 years.

2. Since most basic construction projects have been completed and many production projects have been started or are under study and most of the financing for them has been granted and is in treasuries and Arab companies, we do not believe that the production development programs will be affected to any great extent. However, some projects of a luxury nature will necessarily be affected, such as the construction of deluxe hotels which remain vacant most of the year due to lack of demand. I believe that this luxury will come to a halt.

Training Necessary

Definitely, stopping such projects will affect the total size of the work forces.

Consequently, it is expected that there will be a gradual move to replace Egyptian labor, and some groups in particular, with other groups, to meet the needs of the new demand in these states. Hence, that must be kept in mind in planning and developing human resources in Egypt.

Dr Munji suggests taking the following steps:

1. A detailed, in-depth study of these expectations, which could be done in cooperation with international organizations. At the same time, these studies could be done in cooperation with Arab petroleum states which receive Egyptian labor.
2. Planning and implementing training programs, in particular vocational training, to strike a balance between the needs of the local labor markets and the needs of the Arab countries.
3. A study of the strong possibility that these anticipated changes will affect the wage structure in Egypt, since we expect, for example, a sharp drop in the wages of construction workers because of the anticipated return [of workers from abroad], in comparison to a sharp rise in wages for industrial workers as a result of the expected increase in demand for them.
4. Since the total size of the Egyptian work force abroad is expected to decline, one can also expect a reduction in transfers of Egyptians abroad. This is an important matter which must be discussed to find the necessary alternate sources to finance the development operation in Egypt.

African Markets

5. A study of African labor markets, whose actual need for many groups of Egyptian workers has appeared recently.

[question] What indicators have made you believe that the African markets can be considered among the important markets to receive Egyptian labor?

[Answer] The indicators are:

1. Recent visits to Egypt by some African ministers. Their first request was for Egyptian experts. I imagine that making use of Egyptian expertise is the first route for Egyptian labor to projects in African states.
2. The appearance of oil in some African states, such as Nigeria. There is no doubt that these petroleum revenues increase the size of investments and consequently increase the demand for technical labor, and Egypt can be one of the primary sources.

Supplementary Projects

3. Joint international projects have started to spread in the developing states. Since these projects are set up near sources of raw materials, there is potential for huge projects in some of the African states which have natural raw materials. It is expected that these projects will resort to using Egyptian labor, which is nearby and less expensive than European labor.

Dr Munji suggests that the responsible agencies make contacts to learn the size of these projects and also appoint labor advisers in the major African nations.

Dr Munji also proposes a study of anticipated projects to be carried out by Egypt and Sudan to learn the size of the work force required and the opportunities available to Egyptian labor.

[Question] Do you believe that the Egyptian Five-Year Plan has taken into consideration the question of the Egyptian work force abroad?

[Answer] I believe that if the preceding proposals were carried out, the answer to that question would be of no consequence!

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CSO: 4504/467

PROVISIONS OF BILL CONCERNING EGYPTIANS RESIDENT ABROAD

Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 3 Jul 83 p 8

[Article by 'Abd-al-Jawad 'Ali: "Emigrants Retain Egyptian Citizenship As Well As Citizenship of Place of Emigration"]

[Text] The government has referred a bill on emigration and citizenship for Egyptians abroad to the People's Assembly, in preparation for discussion and issuance of the law before the end of the current parliamentary session. The bill specifies that an Egyptian who emigrates permanently or temporarily has the right to keep his Egyptian citizenship in addition to citizenship in the state of emigration. This right applies to his wife and minor children and to his foreign wife, if she submits a request to acquire Egyptian citizenship.

The law also stipulates that capital with which the Egyptian emigrant participates in projects or investment activities within the country is to be treated as enjoying all of the privileges of foreign capital which is operating in the same field or national capital, whichever is more favorable.

The provisions of the bill specify that the Minister for Emigration Affairs, in cooperation with certain ministers and agencies, is directly responsible for looking after the affairs of Egyptians living abroad. It forms a Supreme Committee for Emigration, chaired by the Minister for Emigration Affairs, whose functions is to establish training centers for those who wish to emigrate, especially in the fields of agriculture and industry, and offer facilitations which are granted to those who emigrate. Those who obtain certificates from the aforementioned training centers are given priority in obtaining opportunities to emigrate or work abroad.

With regard to permanent emigration, the law considers every Egyptian emigrant a permanent emigrant if he made his usual residence on a permanent basis outside the country, if he acquired citizenship in a foreign country, obtained a permanent residence permit there, resided there for a period of no less than 10 years, or obtained an emigration permit from one of the states of emigration. The permanent male emigrant who acquires citizenship in the state of emigration may retain Egyptian citizenship. This right extends to his wife, his minor children who emigrated with him, and to his foreign wife if she submits a request to acquire Egyptian citizenship.

Each child born to a permanent Egyptian male emigrant has the right to retain the same rights and privileges granted his father. That applies to the sons of an Egyptian woman who emigrated with her who have not taken the citizenship of their father.

The designation of permanent emigrant is removed for a citizen who does not travel to the state of emigration within 6 months of the emigration permit or who has returned to reside in Egypt for an uninterrupted period of more than a year. Removal of the designation of emigrant results in forfeit of his claim to the privileges of an emigrant, as of the date when he loses this designation.

Each Egyptian emigrant is considered a temporary emigrant if he made his regular residence or center of his activities abroad when he remained abroad more than one continuous year but did not take steps toward permanent emigration. This designation is removed if he returns to Egypt to live.

As for the rights of emigrants, the law exempts returns or investments through deposits by Egyptian emigrants in one of the banks working in Egypt from all taxes and fees. This also applies to the capital with which the Egyptian emigrant participates in projects or investment activities within the country.

The law makes provisions for a worker who had been working in the government, in one of the units of local government, the public agencies or the public sector and emigrated and then returned to Egypt within 2 years of the date when his resignation was accepted by the agency in which he had been working before this emigration. If he submits a request within 3 months of the date of his final return, he is to be reappointed to his previous position, if it is vacant, or to another position.

A tenant may not be asked to vacate rental property because of his permanent or temporary emigration. This rule applies to existing claims in which no final ruling has been handed down.

In all cases, permanent and temporary emigrants and their children in Egypt or living abroad must obtain the approval of the appropriate agency in the Ministry of Defense, according to the bases and conditions issued by the Minister of Defense in consultation with the Minister for Emigration Affairs.

The one-time compensation stipulated in the social security laws is not permitted for temporary emigrants. The Egyptian who traveled abroad and is designated as an emigrant may ask that his name be placed on the list of permanent emigrants. When that is done, he has all of the rights permitted a permanent emigrant. Anyone who emigrated before this law went into effect and was listed as a permanent emigrant may ask that his Egyptian citizenship be restored, if it had been removed or he had been deprived of it. When his citizenship is restored, it also applies to his minor children, and to his foreign wife if she applies for Egyptian citizenship within 2 years of the date her husband regained it.

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CSO: 4504/467

BRIEFS

PER CAPITA INCOME--The Ministry of Local Government conducted a study on the national policy for development till the year 2000 with the aim of increasing the per capita income from L.E. 250 to L.E. 600 [figure blurred] and increasing the average rate of economic development from 5.5 percent to 7 percent. The study was reviewed this week at a meeting held between the Minister of Local Government, Mr. Saad Ma'amun, and top officials of the Ministry. The study affirmed the importance of exploiting the economic potentials of Cairo and Alexandria to cover the expected sharp increase in the number of residents in the two cities and to support potentials of the Suez Canal region which can accept more people from other governorates. In order to provide more jobs, the study recommended that more efforts be exerted to increase the rate of economic growth in a number of cities in Upper Egypt, specially Assiut, Quenna, Nagaa Hammadi and Aswan. The Ministry of Local Government will send a copy of the study to every governorate to prepare the executive programmes required to carry out the recommendations, said an official source at the Ministry.--GSS [Text] [Cairo THE EGYPTIAN GAZETTE in English 10 Aug 83 p 2]

CSO: 4500/267

COUNTRY'S DOMESTIC POLITICS EXAMINED

East Burnham ARABIA THE ISLAMIC WORLD REVIEW in English No 24, Aug 83 p 27

[Text]

Does the democratic wind blowing over Africa foreshadow the end of dictatorial regimes? After legislative elections in Tunisia in November 1981, and legislative and presidential elections in Senegal a few months ago, the Moroccans went to the polls on June 10 to elect new representatives for communal and municipal councils, before going to the polls once again in August to elect their deputies.

It is, however, sad to realise that all such popular "consultations," which follow the same pattern, always end up in favour of the ruler or ruling party. As in Tunisia and Senegal, the Moroccan low-level elections "confirmed" an overwhelming majority for King Hassan, who has ruled the country since he took over from his father, King Muhammad the Fifth, on February 26, 1961. The delay of the result for over 48 hours and the poor score of the opposition parties angered the latter and led them to protest energetically.

"As in the past five hundred years, in the centuries ahead and whoever the king may be, it is the 'King of Maghrib' who is and will be, the guarantor of your rights and liberties." This pronouncement by King Hassan on May 22 in a speech opening the electoral campaign, confirmed his determination to win a majority of voters – regardless of the real intentions of the individual voters – which would enable him to negotiate the Western Sahara issue with the Polisario without much parliamentary opposition. While Hassan announced, in what was meant to be a democratic measure, the right for the opposition to have access to radio and television during the electoral campaign, observers and press reports were adamant that the "party of the king" was to get a landslide victory.

Among the 14 political parties, the Nationalist Union of Popular Forces (its abbreviation in French is UNFP) of Abdullah Ibrahim is the only one to have boycotted the government-supervised elections – just as it did

in the previous elections of 1976 – because it considered "Moroccan democracy as a parody." On the other hand, the Socialist Union of Popular Forces (its abbreviation in French is USFP), led by Abderrahim Bouabid, seems to have had no choice but to accept playing the game, without ignoring either its constraints or its limitations. If it did not, it would have been marginalised like the UNFP.

The USFP went through a crisis last May precisely because of these elections. A good section of its rank and file, as well as around 12 of its leaders, questioned the leadership of Bouabid and others, who were accused of having made too many concessions to the king. The USFP base was also angered by the leaders' option for participation in the elections, while the socialists – along with the communists – were simply not allowed to run for elections in many areas of the country, according to the socialists themselves.

The reward for its taking part in the elections was meagre, with 537 seats, only a tiny 3.46 per cent of a total number of 15,480 seats. Its reaction was that the authorities robbed it of its majority in many towns, including Rabat and Casablanca.

The Istiqlal, the veteran party that fought for independence, did not get the number of seats it had expected, although it outdid the USFP by far. With 2,601 seats (16.77 per cent of the total number) it was not satisfied. The voting figures released by the government even counted one of its members, Abbes el Fassi, minister of social affairs, as having been defeated, while he had not been an election candidate at all.

The party is reported to be slightly on the decline but observers believe the king has been trying to cut down its audience. Nevertheless, it expressed support of the king's attitude towards the Western Sahara issue in 1974, at a time when the other opposition parties were trying to mobilise public opinion against it. As a reward, its secretary-general, Muhammad

Boucetta, became the king's foreign minister, and it became one of the pro-regime parties.

In spite of its influence, the Istiqlal scored less than the Constitutional Union (CU), a party founded by Prime Minister Maati Bouabid only at the beginning of this year. The CU got 2,727 seats (17.59 per cent of the total), thus beating the Istiqlal by 126 seats.

The independents, who are supposed not to have allegiance to any party, obtained the biggest majority with 3,440 seats, 22.19 per cent of the total. Although these "apoliticals" claim to be independent, they are, in fact, part of what is called the "party of the king." With the Rassemblement National des Independents (RNI) and its 2,190 seats – the fourth pro-regime party after the CU, the Istiqlal and the Independents – the party of the king totalled 58 per cent of the 15,480 seats in 859 communes (county councils).

On the side of the opposition, the Mouvement Populaire of Aherdane, seen as the spokesman of the Moroccan Berbers, gathered 1,891 seats (12.19 per cent). This is more than the socialists of the USFP and the Communist Parti of Progress and Socialism (PPS) which succeeded in winning only 19 seats, namely 0.13 per cent of the votes. Other less important political groups scored less than one per cent of the votes altogether, and had no seats.

Western observers concede that the "irregularities" have spoiled the democratic procedure of the election, but argue that Morocco is nevertheless on the way to "real" democracy – as they did regarding the two pro-western countries, Tunisia and Senegal, before.

However, the way to it may be long, very long, and trying. It seems that the gap of an Islamic party in Maghrib cannot be filled any more by the Istiqlal party, in spite of its Islamic attitude and early traditions. However, the authorities have revealed continuously a certain attitude towards any serious Islamic movement which suggests that a banning of such a party in case of its emergence would be a certainty. All these facts raise questions about how genuine is the democratic process in Maghrib.

● A last minute report stated that Colonel Moammar Qaddafi of Libya recently went on a three day visit to Morocco. At the end of the unexpected visit a communique was issued which said that the two countries had decided to "put an end to everything capable of harming relations between the two countries and to establish permanently fraternal relations."

Morocco and Libya have been at loggerheads almost permanently since the Libyan leader came to power in September 1969, because of Qaddafi's open anti-royalist attitudes but mainly because of his support to the Polisario guerrillas in the Western Sahara. This visit, which came in the wake of the Algerian-Tunisian rapprochement but also of the Algerian-Moroccan coming together, may foreshadow Tripoli's desire to break its isolation by ending its enmity with the "reactionary" Arab states.

COMMENTATOR PRAISES DECISION TO RELEASE RELIGIOUS LEADER

Tunis AL-RA'Y in Arabic 15 Jul 83 p 1

[Article by Hassib Ben Ammar: "After the Release of Mr Abdelfattah Mourou: Toward a Radical Resolution of the Islamic Tendency Case"]

[Text] The prime minister is to be thanked for responding to the appeal that the wife of Mr Abdelfattah Mourou presented to him. He has decided to release the Islamic official for health reasons and put him under house arrest (which we hope will not last long).

We consider that it is necessary to point out that there are other cases which are no less serious than the situation Mr Mourou was in, which for their part demand a rapid decision.

In our opinion, the reasons which prompted President Bourguiba to take this decision cannot be exclusively humanitarian, since if that had been the case the president would have restricted himself to giving permission for Mr Mourou to be moved to the hospital but would not have released him.

The decree, therefore, has a political tinge, which is no secret, and we expect more comprehensive measures to follow it, before commenting on it, because the case goes beyond the matter of an individual, no matter what his status in the movement and no matter what his renown may be.

The fact is that the problem that has been raised before and after the case of the Islamic Movement was launched is how can citizens who have views and positions which are opposed to the official ones present them and attempt to give them concrete form in the framework of the country's laws?

The solution which the Destourian Socialists expressed 6 years ago in October 1977 is for agreement to be reached on a national charter which will set down the principle on whose bases and the frameworks in whose limits political activity will be carried out. The president declared at the Destourian Party conference that he saw nothing objectionable in that.

President Bourguiba's initiative of releasing Mr Abdelfattah Mourou is a positive one, and it is to be regarded as most appropriate that it should be

followed by other similar initiatives and that a declaration should be made pardoning members of the Islamic Movement and other prisoners who have been tried on account of their ideas.

It is necessary to hasten to set out a national charter with the cooperation of all political movements, so that all sincere nationalists may become engrossed in construction and in cooperating for the good of Tunisia and its Moslem Arab people.

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CSO: 4504/506

DISSIDENT PAPER PRAISES RELEASE OF ISLAMIC MILITANT

Tunis AL-RA'Y in Arabic 15 Jul 83 p 5

[Article by Salaheddine Jc ech: "Is the Release of Shaykh Mourou the Turning Point?"]

[Text] Most circles, especially those close to the Islamic movement, greet the presidential decree calling for the release of Shaykh Abdelfattah Mourou and putting him under house arrest with the utmost satisfaction.

While the direct factor in the adoption of the decree was the state of Mr Mourou's health, a view which some observers hold tends to consider that the matter goes beyond immediate factors and is related to the process of releasing the remaining prisoners and creating a flexible, more mature framework which could reduce the state of tension that dominates the Islamic man on the street and urge the manifestations of religion into areas which the authorities consider do not conflict radically with the values of the regime.

Among the signs on which this analysis is founded are the following:

1. The passage of 2 years since the trial of the Islamic Tendency has, relatively speaking, been enough to make some officials, even those who have been the most hostile to the manifestations, review events and look upon the matter with more "flexibility." They have "discovered" that the movement "is not as serious as they had expected it to be when they made the decision to confront it." Connections with the outside world, especially with Iran, have not been proved, and sabotage agencies have not been unearthed, as was being rumored at the beginning with the arrest of each new wave. In addition, the movement's reaction, politically and organizationally, was not "strong" or violent, as the agencies of the authorities had expected. Even the arrests which followed the trial of the leaders came up only with normal attempts to preserve some organizational relations and help the families that had been harmed. It was also established that trials were not the way to guarantee the "extirpation" of the movement, and the phenomenon in general, as some people alleged. All these facts made some officials re-examine the matter. While they adhered to previous positions on what they called the confrontation of "fanaticism" and "extremism," they started nonetheless to turn to

rule out the approach of violence toward the Islamic community, and some of them did not conceal the need to transcend political methods in dealing with the phenomenon and to consider it basically a phenomenon of culture and civilization. Indeed, some went so far as perhaps not to see anything wrong in letting the law legalize all religious currents, because that would make them more open and less extreme.

2. Among these parties the presence of something approaching a readiness to rise above the dilemma can be sensed. While they consider the pardon decree to be one of the powers of the president, on grounds that he is the highest authority in the country, these parties, it appears, in accordance with their new conviction, consider that this can be realized only if the Islamic Tendency, at least, at this stage, agrees to abandon:

Its identity as a political party, on the argument that politics and religion must be separated.

The "politicization" of the mosques, on the argument that the mosques have been created for worship, not the exercise of political action.

Respect for the law and repudiation of all acts of violence, whatever justifications there might be for them.

If we consider these conditions of the authorities, which are being cited at times, we can feel that they are outside the triangular framework which can accept or think of other formulas for preserving the phenomenon and letting it retain its ability to move, since dialogue, or let us say acts of mediation, have not yet started in a serious manner, and the Islamic Tendency, though it has endorsed the third condition on more than one occasion, has not expressed a clear opinion on the other two conditions. Its statements continue to reiterate the right to a political presence. The assumption that it will relinquish this right remains pending and unanswered, perhaps because its leadership is still awaiting further clarifications, or perhaps because the atmosphere of dialogue is not sound or fair (some parties are in power, and some are in prison). Even those who expect that the release of Mr Mourou will hasten this matter might be disappointed, since he has stressed that he does not have the right to speak in the name of his brothers who are still suffering from the inequities of prison.

3. The fact that the prime minister assumed the task of announcing the news of Mr Mourou's release is significant from more than one angle, to some people. It is a signal on his part that the authorities whose affairs he is responsible for are anxious to resolve this problem. In addition, the expressions he chose in presenting the news and his reception of Mr Ihmida Neifar, in his capacity as director of the magazine 21 X 15, his request for his view and analysis of the state of affairs in the Islamic community, the fact that he heard out the view of the latter person, who stressed the civilized nature of the phenomenon and its learned nature, and his repudiation of all repressive practices that have the effect of pushing the phenomenon in the direction of disruptiveness, introversion and violence could all underline the authorities' endeavor to terminate and put away this file in the coming stage.

4. Some observers consider that the prime minister entered into "action" a few months ago with the aim of "cleaning up the negative accumulated debris" that had piled up since he assumed the premiership, of regaining the trust he had gambled on at the beginning, and grasping more of the strings in the game. In this context lie the statements stressing the expansion of the base of party pluralism and also the "patience" with which the government has confronted the social situation, the negotiations with the federation and the unions, and also the ministerial and managerial reorganizations to guarantee what has been called "the harmony of the government." Why shouldn't ending the state of tension in the religious arena be another link in this integrative process in the view of the prime minister and his allies on the current political map?

These are some of the signs on which this analysis is based. Whether they are right or wrong, it is clear that the religious issue has become inflated since the beginning, has been confronted in an improper, unsound manner and has gone on at length, and that a positive will to resolve it has started to assume concrete form in the centers of influence. There might be a dispute over formulas, but it is certain that the leadership of the Islamic Tendency has not rejected the principle of dialogue, although it has not specified the nature and dimensions of this dialogue. This is now inducing it to become amenable to the flexibility which some parties in power are showing. However, it is certain that the release of Mr Abdelfattah Mourou has been a positive step and that in order for the dialogue to be reinforced and bear fruit, it will have to take place in a sound, reasonable atmosphere, which will be achieved only through the release of everyone and the discontinuation of the trials and prosecution that are underway.

11887

CSO: 4504/506

TUNISIA

BRIEFS

STATEMENT BY ISLAMIC DETAINEES--AL-RA'Y has been contacted by Messrs Abdallah Taboubi, Dr Mohamed Ben Najma, Habib Soussi, Hechmi Ghourbal, Bechir Khediri and Chakib Boukaili, who are all longtime political prisoners from the Islamic Tendency Movement, with the following statement: By decree of the president, Mr Abdelfattah Mourou, secretary general of the Islamic Tendency Movement, has been released and placed under house arrest. Out of our feeling and our bearing of responsibility, we bless this humanitarian decree and consider it to be a positive political measure which will move political life forward toward more dialogue and democracy. While blessing these bold steps to cleanse the political atmosphere, we believe that it will remain fragmentary if the following demands are not met: One, the elimination of the house arrest of Mr Abdelfattah Mourou, enabling him to have all his freedoms; two, the release of all political prisoners; three, permission for the return of all political exiles; four, the passage of a general legislative amnesty. [Text] [Tunis AL-RA'Y in Arabic 15 Jul 83 p 5]

CONSTANT PROVOCATIONS--Mr Habib Mokh, member of the Arab Nationalist Grouping Movement and professor in Rades, has informed us that since 1980 he has been subject to surveillance by unknown persons. This surveillance then turned into daily provocations when he settled down in the town of Rades, as well as on the train connecting Rades to Tunis, especially after he joined the Arab Nationalist Grouping Movement. Although these acts of provocation have assumed the coloration of "psychological terrorism," on 3 July 1983 they were transformed into violent aggression on the part of an unknown person, the result of which was that three of Prof Mokh's ribs and some of his teeth were broken. The person against whom the aggression was committed filed a case against an unknown person on 3 July 1983, and, since that time, the acts of provocation have been continuous. [Text] [Tunis AL-RA'Y in Arabic 15 Jul 83 p 5]

CS0: 4504/506

CP ORGAN PUBLISHES CONVERSATION WITH POLITBURO'S ZAKI KHAYRI

Copenhagen LAND OG FOLK in Danish 25 Aug 83 p 8

[Article by Lisbeth Hernes and Irene Edelgaard: "Leading Iraqi Communist: Iraq Ready for Democratic Revolution"]

[Text] During a trip to Syria in July, two members of the Middle East group of the Left Socialist Party, Lisbeth Hernes and Irene Edelgaard, talked with Zaki Khayri, who is a member of the politburo of the Iraqi Communist Party.

Zaki Khayri, who is the only leading member of the banned party who is staying outside Iraq, talked about the present situation in the country, and the conversation with him forms the basis for the article below.

Development into Dictatorship

"During the period up to 1975, the Iraqi Ba'ath regime took limited action against the capitalists of the country. Subsequently, it changed its course, pumping millions of petro-dollars into the local capital market. The consequence was that the middle class became considerably strengthened. It is generally known that capitalism grows if it is allowed to do so--however, the enormous influx of petro-dollars provided hothouse conditions for capitalism. Even state-owned enterprises were being managed on capitalist terms. The developments after 1975 mark the beginnings of an economic alliance between capitalists and the state bureaucracy.

In May of 1978, the government executed 21 leading members of the Ba'ath Party and removed the president, Al Bakr. Thirty-one Communists, who were in military service within the army, were liquidated the very same day. In the course of a couple of months, the coalition between the Ba'ath regime and the Communists collapsed, and two Communist ministers were removed from the cabinet.

A complete break with the Ba'ath party took place in 1979. The Ba'ath regime now started a campaign against our organization, which had largely been an open organization on account of its united front with the Ba'ath party.

In 1979 Saddam Hussein had seized complete power, and, as a result, the Iraqi regime became Saddam Hussein's personal dictatorship."

Armed Struggle

"We found no other possibility of fighting the dictatorship than taking up arms. Already at the time, there was a Kurdish partisan movement which, for years, had been waging partisan warfare against the regime. We have a partisan movement in Kurdistan, in the north-easterly part of Iraq, which borders on the Kurdish areas of Turkey and Iran. We do not intend to overturn Saddam Hussein's dictatorship through partisan warfare alone. However, partisan warfare is necessary in order to gain direct contact with the masses of the people. In Kurdistan, we have an illegal radio transmitter, which broadcasts to the Iraqi people daily. We have schools which train our party cadres to be sent to the towns to continue the fight underground."

War Against Iran

"Three years ago, Iraq attacked Iran, and we condemned the Iraqi war of aggression, starting a campaign for democratic peace. It is important to stop the war, so that people may reflect on the dictatorship which led the Iraqi people into the hopeless, senseless, and useless war--which has now cost the lives of a large number of Iraqis, and which has ruined the lives and the future of hundreds of Iraqi families.

At the same time, already 3 years ago, we stated that it is impossible to carry through a democratic peace when one of the sides is an aggressive, belligerent dictatorship. That is common sense. After 3 years of war, it has become clear that neither party may win the war. The Iranians fought bravely and determinedly on their own soil. When the war was carried into Iraqi soil, the Iraqis fought equally bravely and determinedly and it was not possible to defeat them. However, both governments are deeply involved in the war and will hardly be able to get out of it on their own since a defeat is likely to mean the defeat of either government.

Democratic Opposition

It is not possible to indicate precisely the number of people who support the democratic national opposition. Iraq has never been a democratic country. There has never been any general election, and thus no true parliamentary life.

In 1958-59, when the situation in Iraq was revolutionary, the U.S. intelligence service estimated that approximately 70 percent of the Iraqi population supported the Communists, and that is the reason why the government dared not hold an election.

It goes without saying that the balance of power between the democratic and the reactionary forces will always depend on the situation. However, it is our opinion today that Iraq is ready for a democratic revolution on account of the social contrasts between the dictatorship and the people, the national contrasts, i.e. the relationship with the Kurds, and because these contrasts are being intensified by the war between Iraq and Iran.

What unites the Iraqi democratic opposition is the demand for the formation of a united front government, a broad national front of all national, democratic forces that are opposed to the present dictatorship. A government which will stop the war with Iran and declare a democratic peace. Beyond that, our chief demands are real democracy for the entire Iraqi people and real self-government for the Kurds."

Deepened Contrasts

"The war intensifies the social differences both in Iraq and in Iran, but in Iraq the situation is better for the democratic forces. They are far better organized in Iraq--for example, all the members of the Iraqi Communist Party's politburo, apart from one person (Zaki Khayri, editors), are on Iraqi soil--and they have all of them learned their lessons from the revolution in 1958. In addition, people are less religious than in Iran.

Of course, our revolution will only become a success if it is supported by the overwhelming majority of the Iraqi people--and if it is supported by the army. The Iraqi army now has 750,000 Iraqis, nearly all the Iraqis who are able to carry arms. They are experienced and heavily armed. For on account of the war against Iran, Saddam Hussein has been forced to arm the population.

If the revolution starts as happened in Europe and in the then Russia after World War I among the soldiers, nobody can stop the revolution. For the first time in history, the Iraqi people are armed.

The Kurdish Issue

The most important issue in the Middle East is the Palestinian issue. The second most important issue is the Kurdish issue. There are approximately 20 million Kurds in the area, they have no national rights and have, for years, been brutally oppressed. In Turkey, they do not even have any civil rights. They are not even allowed to speak their own language outside their own homes, and the Turkish regime has murdered hundreds of Kurds.

The Kurdish national movement is now growing very rapidly. This is an element which contributes to creating the basis for revolution in that area. The Turkish regime is becoming afraid of the revolutionary forces, which are also starting to appear among the Kurds in Turkey.

Even if there are several Kurdish parties, it is an important trend that the Kurdish national movement is organized, and there are several parties which are avowed Marxist-Leninist. And it is not a question of any discussion clubs but politically active fighters. Thus the same trend which is also growing within the Palestinian organizations. Both Turkey, Iran and Iraq are afraid of the Kurdish national movement.

And, despite the war between Iran and Iraq, neither side forgets, at the same time, to fight the Kurds, and, at the same time, both sides are seeking to use the Kurdish nationalists for their own purposes in the other country. This has been their tradition for a long time, and, in this context, it is

dangerous for the regimes when Kurdish nationalists and the democratic opposition in their own country unite on a platform which fights dictatorship and reaction and, of course, at the same time, guarantees the Kurds their right to real self-government.

Danger of Intervention.

We cannot ignore the danger of the possibility of intervention from the outside--on the part of Turkey or the United States/NATO. Recently, Turkish troops penetrated 30 kilometers into Iraq, of course, in the area where Iraqi Kurds are living and fighting against the Iraqi dictatorship. And that means that the Turkish troops did not enter into the country without a previous agreement with Saddam Hussein.

However, the Kurdish partisans fought hard and obstinately, and the Turkish troops suffered heavy losses. We cannot rule out the possibility of a repetition. Turkey and Saddam Hussein see the same enemy in the Kurds and the democratic forces.

Political Situation Explosive

The political situation in the Middle East holds many serious dangers, but also possibilities. The possibility that a third world war might start there cannot be precluded. First of all, there is the belligerent and expansive Israel, supported by the United States; in the Mediterranean the 6th U.S. fleet is in readiness; in the Arabian Sea, the Indian Ocean the 5th U.S. fleet; then there is the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force which may be put into action anywhere in the Middle East, the Gulf and North America; the U.S. troops in Lebanon and, for example, the armament of Turkey by the United States.

However, if the democratic revolution in Iraq prevails, this will not only strengthen the democratic forces in Iraq and the national Kurdish movement. It will also relieve a generally very difficult situation in the Middle East.

It will especially benefit the Palestinians. At present, only Syria is confronting the threat from Israel. A democratic Iraq would be a support in Syria's struggle against Israeli aggression and U.S. imperialism and a support in the struggle of the Palestinians.

7262

CSO: 3613/183

LONDON PUBLICATION CLAIMS MILITARY TECHNOLOGY SOLD TO CHINA

Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 5 Aug 83 p 1

[Article by Yossi Melman: Israel Allegedly Selling Weapons, Technology to China"]

[Text] According to an article in FOREIGN REPORT, published in London, Communist China is financing the acquisition of military technology from Israel by secret supplies of arms to Iraq.

According to the article, hundreds of Israelis are now working in China. They are advising the Chinese Government how to produce tanks, based on the production of the Kfir; they are also consulted on subjects related to the production of anti-ship and anti-aircraft missiles.

It is stressed in the article that all reports on the sale of Israeli weapons to China have been denied, and that the nature of the deal between the two countries is consulting on how to modernize the Chinese army. The initiative was Chiang Saho Ding's (spelling?), considered to be China's strong-man. He has wanted to replace his army's equipment, dating from the fifties, for a long time. The Peking government did not want to acquire equipment from the West, but rather, they wanted to produce it themselves. Unlike Western companies, which were reluctant to disclose commercial secrets to the Chinese, Israel had no qualms in the matter. Thus, for the past 3 years Israel has been selling the Chinese military technology although the two countries do not have diplomatic relations and in spite of the fact that China has always maintained pro-Palestinian policies.

Modifying Soviet Weapons

The report estimates that "Israel can also offer China advice on how to modify obsolete Soviet weapons which fell into Israeli hands as a result of the wars." The advantages to both countries are substantial. It was reported, in addition, that "the Chinese are improving essential military equipment without having to depend on imports, while Israel has acquired the friendship of a superpower and an additional source of income."

Therefore, it is stressed in the publication, "it can be assumed that this arrangement will continue, although some non-government circles in Israel have called on the government to demand the establishment of diplomatic relations in return."

The report also mentions speculations that China is financing this deal by the sale of obsolete weapons, including tanks, to Iraq. It ends with the question: "Does China now sell military equipment to Iraq with the help of Israeli expertise?"

8646

CS0: 4423/171

TOXIC POLLUTANTS NOTED IN TEL AVIV

Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 7 Aug 83 p 6

[Text] Cyanide poisons, various acids, hazardous industrial wastes and antibiotic materials which have been discarded and which are dangerous for human health and the environment, all in quantities estimated to be between 500 and 1,000 cubic meters annually, are not being taken from industrial plants in Tel Aviv to a special disposal site for hazardous industrial wastes.

"It is reasonable to assume that these poisons are dumped in the backyards of plants, in empty lots and even in wadis in the Tel Aviv region." The claim was made by the deputy mayor of Tel Aviv, Yitzhaq Caspi, chairman of the Gush Dan municipal association for quality of the environment and sewage.

Gush Dan cities dump an average of 160,000 cubic meters of sewage per day. A large portion of that is dumped into the sea near Tel Aviv, in an area closed to swimmers. Industrial wastes, some of which are poisonous, constitute 10 to 15 percent of the average sewage dumped into the sea. The weight of these wastes and the health hazards they pose are considerable.

"In some plants, of the 200 in the Tel Aviv region which produce hazardous wastes, these wastes are collected in barrels, which remain on the plants' grounds until the containers burst open and the wastes spill to the ground. In some cases the poisonous material is dumped into neighboring yards, wadis and other unapproved sites," said Caspi.

About a year ago the national site for the disposal of hazardous materials, in Ramat Hovev's industrial park, south of Beer Sheba, was closed by a court order. From that time on there has not been in Israel a site for the disposal of hazardous materials. The Health Ministry reports that negotiations are now under way to reopen the site in Ramat Hovev.

8646

CSO: 4423/171

EAST JERUSALEM BUSINESSMEN COMPLAIN OF ARSON, THEFT

Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic 30 Jul 83 p 8

[Article by Riyad Jibran: "Burglaries and Arson Continue, Perpetrators 'Unknown'!"]

[Text] In this part [first part not available] we resume our exposure of the deteriorating situation experienced by many shopkeepers and proprietors of local establishments in East Jerusalem because of burglaries and arson. These acts have caused heavy financial losses, psychological effects and problems for many residents of the holy city:

Hashim Azhiman, owner of the Philadelphia Restaurant on al-Zahra' Street, a first-class restaurant which employs 18 and is the primary source of income for the owner and his sons:

"The restaurant caught fire on Thursday after we closed at 2:30 am.

"When we arrived at the restaurant in the morning, we found that the flames had engulfed the main entrance. We called the Jerusalem fire department, which helped put out the fire along with our dear neighbors.

"The purpose of setting fire to the restaurant, which is quite clear, was to destroy the restaurant and everything inside. The restaurant was closed for a week, and our losses were around 11,000 Jordanian dinars.

"I worked here for 20 years, and with hard work and careful planning I was able to buy the restaurant from the former owner. I do not have complete insurance coverage for the restaurant and was forced to pay all the expenses from my pocket.

"It is really sad that no one has come from the chamber of commerce to find out about the incident, even though we are members. They must make us feel that someone is looking out for our interests.

"The main reason for the incident was insufficient protection. Protection must be strengthened to put a stop to these barbaric acts of terrorism, especially in Jerusalem, the largest city in the occupied Arab territories."

At the end of the interview, I could only ask, "What will happen to these shops and establishments that are subjected daily to theft and arson??"

We met with Marwan Hanna Sahhar, owner of Sahhar Grocery near Dar al-Awlad in Jerusalem:

"The grocery was burned and looted at 1:00 am Monday, 3 July 1983. Everything inside was destroyed--nothing could be salvaged.

"The store was established in 1966. It was the sole source of income for a family of more than five, most of whom are college students or are students in other schools.

"Everything in the store--merchandise, refrigerators, decor--was destroyed. Nothing was left, and theft accounted for a substantial amount.

"The entire contents of the store were valued at 10,000 dinars or more.

"We place complete blame on those in charge of protection at night and demand that protection of Arab property be intensified, since their negligence and indifference are perfectly obvious.

"Encouraging this activity against the Arab residents is a blatant attempt to strike a blow at the Palestinian economy and to drive the rightful residents from their land and homes and induce them to sell their businesses.

"One thing that pleased me and put my mind at ease was the genuine help of neighbors, residents of the area and others, who rushed to the scene of the incident to help put out the fire, clean the store, console us, etc.

"There was an unseen hand behind the people who did this. Those responsible must be punished and exposed.

"I have to pay all the expenses from my own pocket, at my family's expense, because there is no insurance company to help in this sphere. I have to furnish and repair the store, which is very expensive.

"We demand that the chamber of commerce stand by us and help us because we are active members of the organization.

"This is the fifth such incident since the store was opened, and so far the police have not been able to identify the culprits.

"What we want is increased protection at night for Arab property, as I said. However, the residents bear some of the responsibility since these businesses belong to our people and must be protected as much as possible. People must act quickly if any business suffers such a regrettable incident, which is bad psychologically for the situation in general and for the residents of the area in particular."

Samir Abu Khatir, owner of the Stella Mars Restaurant:

"The main entrance to the restaurant was set on fire on Tuesday, 16 June 1983, at 4:00 am, but the people who tried to break in were unsuccessful.

"Damages to the restaurant were over 1,000 Jordanian dinars, and we were completely closed for 1 month.

"The restaurant was refurnished and repaired, and I had to pay all the expenses from my own pocket.

"The police came to the scene of the incident, but the investigation has yielded nothing so far.

"These acts are bad for the residents and are meant to make them uneasy.

"They are intentional acts carried out by dangerous gangs in order to strike a blow at the local economy and at businesses in Arab Jerusalem.

"There is no insurance, and no one has helped me repair the restaurant.

"The restaurant has more than 10 employees who support many relatives. If we close, many of them will be forced to look for other employment."

9882

CSO: 4404/580

CONTAMINATED DRINKING WATER POSES HEALTH HAZARD

Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 4 Aug 83 p 6

[Text] Approximately 600 children and adults suffered from vomiting and diarrhea in two serious incidents of contaminated drinking water in northern Israel.

In the beginning of the week people in Kfar Yehezqel and Gid'ona in the Yizre'el Valley were stricken.

As a result of an explosion in the water system of these settlements, people there were supplied with water from an alternate source, which normally is not used for drinking purposes. The water was not disinfected.

The Health Ministry reports that when the incident was disclosed, repair to the water system was hastened and it was reconnected to the normal source. At the same time two chlorinators were attached so that all water reaching these settlements is now always disinfected. The Health Ministry reports further that it is considering a suit against Kfar Yehezqel's water authority.

Drilling Site Is Contaminated

The second incident occurred in Kfar Hasidim and in Rekhasim, near Haifa, as a result of contamination to a drilling site in the area. The Health Ministry reports that the two settlements receive water from local wells pumped by Mekorot. One of these wells was contaminated. After the sickness was reported the supply of water from that well and from two other nearby wells was discontinued. Both settlements now receive their water from another source; the National Pipeline. The Health Ministry reports that since it became clear that the Kfar Hasidim wells may be contaminated again, the Ministry will demand that use of this water for drinking purposes be discontinued.

8646

CSO: 4423/171

BRIEFS

NEW NEGEV SHAYKHS--Two new shaykhs for the northern Negev were inaugurated on 6 August 1983 in the offices of the Interior Ministry in Beer-Sheba: Shaykh Sulayman al-Faynish and Shaykh Farhud Abu-al-Ki'an. Many shaykhs and notables were present for the ceremony. Nissim Kazaz, in charge of Arab affairs in the south, said that a murder charge ties the two new shaykhs together. The affair started in 1966, when Abu-al-Ki'an's son was murdered. The murderer's footprints led to al-Faynish's tents, where the murder was denied outright. For 15 years it was impossible to reinstate peace between the two families. A year ago both Shaykhs travelled to the Sinai in order to prove innocence in the fire-licking ceremony. [Text] [Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 7 Aug 83 p 4] 8646

CSO: 4423/171

DETAILS OF STEEL COMPANY PRODUCTION, ADMINISTRATION GIVEN

Damascus Al-FURSAN in Arabic No 184, Jun 83 pp 22-28

[Interview with Walid al-Asfur, Director General of the State Company for Iron and Steel Products; date and place not specified]

[Text] [Question] Could you tell us about your company's activities and provide some figures, and say something about the development it has undergone under the auspices of the reform movement?

[Answer] In response to this first question I must praise the information media in view of the fact that the citizens of Syria have come to know quite a bit about the activities of the State Company For Iron and Steel Products through repeated interviews with the media at all of our company's sites. This company is important because it is the nucleus of the nation's heavy industry and because it ensures the essential materials for construction and development. It supports the national economy and provides national income in keeping with the principles defined by the goals of the corrective movement. The company's activities can be summarized as follows:

The company was founded in 1970 by legislative decree number 142 of 20 July 1970. The company's tasks were defined as production and utilization of mineral ores, and the construction, implementation and utilization of iron and steel mills and other supplementary industries.

The following table shows the company's situation and its development during the period from 1970 to 1983:

[Question] What do you see for the future?

[Answer] As you can clearly see in the above table the company has developed significantly. In cooperation with the organization of industrial engineers, and with the support of the minister of industry we are working to significantly expand the company's plants. This expansion can be summarized as follows:

1. Expansion of the iron bar plant and raising its production capacity from 105,000 tons to 240,000 tons annually. This will be accomplished by making certain design modifications and adding certain machinery and equipment. It will take only modest investments to increase this capacity. A group of foreign companies is preparing studies and a contract for that is expected to be signed by the end of this year.

<u>1983</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>Field of Development</u>
574 million Syrian pounds	100 million Syrian pounds	Capital
Iron bar plant Scrap iron smelting plant Metal pipe plant	Iron bar plant	Plants
105,000 tons of reinforced iron bars 80,000 tons of half-processed blocks 12 million meters of metal pipes	59,000 tons of reinforced iron bars	Production
1,463 laborers, technicians and engineers	325 laborers, technicians and engineers	Number of employees

2. Increasing the productivity of the metal pipe factory by employing a third shift on the production lines. The galvanization division will be expanded and a new unit will be added to this division so that we can raise the production capability at the plant from 12 million meters of completely galvanized pipe to 20 million meters.

[Question] Are there any obstacles in the way of the work? What suggestions do you have for solving them?

[Answer] There are two kinds of obstacles:

1. Internal obstacles (within the domain of the company):
2. External obstacles (outside the domain of the company).

Of course, the internal and external obstacles are connected, and a comprehensive solution must be found. Within the scope of this goal the company's board of directors has proceeded to identify and minimize the obstacles which stand in the way of operations at every site in the country's industrial sector. These methods are as follows:

The creation of a practical formula for democratic management. This is manifested in the production forums. We have made good progress in this area inasmuch as we have a structure that is truly similar to the democratic management found in party and union organizations.

To improve the company's profitability we have undertaken studies on the following:

1. Reducing the number of workers in the factories at any one time by increasing the number of work groups from three to four without increasing the

number of employees. As a result, production time will be increased while wages are kept the same, and there will be no need for additional work. This will be accomplished by signing collective work contracts with the union committees at each plant separately. We will thereby achieve the following goals:

Increased production capacity.

Creating additional income for the employees as a result of those contracts.

Ensuring more leisure for the worker by having him work only 5 days a week.

Reducing the amount of waste of raw materials by means of the collective contract.

2. Preparing studies to provide foreign expertise for both the foundries and the pipe factories. This will be based on contracts given careful economic consideration so that the fees paid to the experts will be linked to the rate of growth in production capacity and reduced waste of raw materials. When the studies are completed and are presented to the foreign companies we will proceed to prepare an economic study for the winning bid in which we will define the advantage of this new method to the nation. We will, in fact, go even further than that. We will offer the nation a greater use of the collective work method by encouraging collective work contracts so that we can replace the contracts with foreign companies with contracts with the workers at 50 percent of the amount which would be paid to the foreign companies in conjunction with studies and powers which will be determined later in light of the bids by the foreign companies.

[Question] What is your plan for the production month which began on 1 March 1983?

[Answer] I personally do not endorse the idea of a "production month" since it is essential that it apply to every month of the year. This is a concept of the international monthly and yearly production plan. In my opinion the notion of a production month should be replaced by a national work day outside the scope of the production plan. However, under the current notion of the production month we have taken the following steps:

1. The regular meetings of the production committees have been increased to once a week to monitor the progress of work and to make decisions on overcoming difficulties.

2. Subcommittees of the production committees have been formed at each plant, including the director of the plant and the division heads, representing the trade union. Regular daily meetings have been scheduled for them to monitor the progress of work.

3. We have drawn up principals for production competitions within the company as follows:

Production competitions among the three plants will be on the basis of carefully considered principles which define the planned production capacity and actual production in 1982 to determine the winning factory.

Within each plant there will be production competitions by shifts to determine the winning shift.

There will be production competitions to locate production heroes in each plant and within the company on the basis of creative ability, promptness and self-sacrifice on the job.

We have determined specific financial rewards to honor the victors in these production competitions.

On the basis of personality and creative ability financial rewards have been determined for the production of the winners.

Finally, I want to thank AL-FURSAN for granting us the opportunity for this meeting so that I could give a simple explanation about how our company operates. We hope that we will have future opportunities with all of the information media so that we may provide greater detail about developments in our operations, which really depend primarily on knowledge to deal with matters.

9123

CSO: 4404/528

SUGAR REFINERIES GEAR UP FOR PRODUCTION

Damascus AL-THAWRAH in Arabic 17 Jul 83 p 4

[Article: "Sugar Factories Complete Their Preparations To Accept the Sugar Beet Crop"]

[Text] The governorates--Al-THAWRAY--SANA--The nation's sugar factories have completed their preparations to receive the sugar beet crop and begin manufacturing sugar. The sugar beet crops will be received according to schedules and according to production capacity at each plant. The nation's sugar beet crop is expected to amount to about 1 million tons this year, distributed among the areas in which it is grown. The recent meeting of the board of directors of the sugar factories which was held in Homs with the deputy prime minister for economic affairs set up a timetable for starting operations at the sugar factories as follows:

Dayr al-Zawr: 12 July;
al-Raqqah: 15 July;
Maskanah: 15 July;
Salhab: 7 July.

Operations at the plants in Homs and al-Ghab began on 1 July and 3 July, while starting operations at the 'Adra sugar plant are scheduled to begin in early September because of maintenance and repairs at the plant. The sugar beet crop was distributed as follows:

Maskanah: 210,000 Tons;
Dayr al-Zawr: 60,000 tons;
al-Raqqah: 35,000 tons;
Salhab: 340,000 tons;
al-Ghab: 225,000 tons;
Homs: 167,000 tons;
'Adhra': 120,000 tons

In Aleppo the farmers' union recently signed an agreement with the Maskanah Sugar Company to take 50,000 tons of fresh beets and distribute them to the farmers organizations, the sheep raisers organizations, and various other organizations to provide the cattle with their requirements for this substance.

The president of the farmers' union in Aleppo announced yesterday that the farmers' organizations had begun to deliver their beet crop to the Maskanah Sugar Factory.

The area cultivated with sugar beets by the various farmer organizations is estimated at 5,100 hectares, of which 614 hectares belong to the cooperative sector and the remainder belong to the private sector. The sugar beet crop is expected to exceed 40,000 tons.

On another subject the agricultural committee in the district of al-Qusayr in the Homs governorate held a meeting yesterday in which the agricultural situation in the district was discussed and evaluated in light of the area under cultivation and agricultural production.

A decision was made to work to increase the area cultivated with sugar beets for the 1983-84 seasonal plan to 11,000 dunams for the summer crop and 12,000 dunams for the fall crop, instead of 8,000 dunams for each period as it was during the last season.

This increase in the area under cultivation is possible in light of the large tracts of irrigated land and the fact that a large portion of unirrigated land in the district has now become irrigated.

9123

CSO: 4404/528

TEHRIK CONDEMNS GOVERNMENT ACTIONS

Karachi DAWN in English 23 Aug 83 p 6

[Text]

PESHAWAR, Aug 22: The defunct Tehrik-i-Istiqal has reiterated its "fullest participation" in the current MRD movement for the restoration of democracy in Pakistan, says a Press release issued here on Monday.

An emergency meeting of the defunct Tehrik executive, held in Peshawar under the chairmanship of its provincial acting Chairman, Amanullah Khan Mohmand, took "a number of important decision" after taking into consideration the current political situation in the country.

The meeting condemned official violence against the masses in the country and expressed "deep regret over the latest incidents in Sind".

Expressing the resolve that the defunct TI is fully participating in the movement for the restoration of democracy, it warned the "present ruling junta" against the consequences of "brutal maltreatment of the people" which, it said, could "pose a serious threat to the country."

The Press release says that continuity of martial law is in no way in the interest of the country and the nation and the defunct "Sarhad TI

insists on the demand that all political leaders and workers should be released and the government should desist from further outrages against the masses."

Terming the so-called raise in the emoluments of government servants as "a fraud", the Press release said: "The rulers want to use it (pay raise) as a stunt to prolong martial law through the help of undemocratic forces."

It demanded that "the 1973 Constitution should be immediately restored and power should be transferred to people's representatives after holding general elections."

The Press release says that the defunct TI, while "condemning the arrests of MRD workers and cruelties perpetrated on them, warns the rulers that responsibility for the gravity of the situation will lie on them if they failed to use their better sense and exercise care."

The defunct TI, NWFP, also paid tributes to those government servants "who have resigned their posts in protest against violence on the unarmed civilians."

The meeting also offered 'fateha' for those who have laid their lives on the path of struggle for democracy, the Press release added.

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL PLEADS FOR RELEASE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS

Karachi DAWN in English 23 Aug 83 p 6

[Text]

LAHORE, Aug 22: The Amnesty International's Committee for "the release of prisoners of conscience" has suggested the Government to release all political detainees, cases against them be withdrawn and such conditions be created under which there should be no need of arresting people.

This was stated by Mr Zafar Malik, advocate, while addressing a Press conference at the Lahore Press Club. Mr Zafar is one of the three members of the committee which has undertaken the task to collect particulars of the political prisoners to know the exact number of such detainees in the country.

Mr Aitezaz Ahsan, advocate, a senior member of the Committee, is already under detention.

Mr. Zafar Malik gave details of the political prisoners which according to signature campaign conducted by the committee, was in thousands. Such detainees in jails were being treated as ordinary prisoners, he added.

Mr. Zafar disclosed that soon a next phase of the Amnesty International's programme would be realised, after consultation with the quarters concerned. 10 213700

CSO: 4600/882

ECONOMIC PICTURE TERMED BLEAK; NEED FOR INVESTMENT STRESSED

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 13 Aug 83 p 4

[Article by M. M. Sayeed: "No Global Participation Without Economic Expansion"]

[Text] There is a story of a bulldozer, who tried very hard, poor man, with no results, to shed his weight, without strenuous exercise and strict adherence to a diet schedule. It looks as if, the edifice of our planned development is being erected on a similar base. The strength and resilience of our economy, as apparent from its performance, has been a history of adjustments, dislocations, development process slowed down and falling short of targets one fiscal year after another. We are hardly registering any noticeable growth rate in national saving, government revenues or balance of payments and there are indecisions, revisions and periods of protracted procrastinations. This is the text and content of the rejoinder, to a comprehensive questionnaire regarding the steps taken for the revival of our economy. A poor scenario of performance, indeed.

Living Standard

Saddled with the stress of low living standards and penury, there are no signs to mark the beginning of a more rewarding phase of our economic expansion and a sizeable growth in industrial output. We have watched with despair and alarm the longdrawn economic depression hit by world wide recession. Heavy barrowing has kept our economy afloat. Burdened by foreign debts we have also to satisfy the aid-giving agencies and win their approval, to build up new debts in order to pay off higher interest rates, spending a lion's share of our export earnings, on debt servicing. Relying more and more on external barrowing, in an attempt to quicken the pace of economic development, is certainly not a laudable effort. With growing indebtedness, we are increasing the magnitude and severity of the debtor-creditor problems that would have to be faced at a later stage. In short, our debt problem has worsened with the passage of time and this does not augur well for any expansion in economic activity. The adverse consequences, for future, may be irreversible, in the absence of concrete solutions. Escalating tariffs, trade barriers and our own poor performance, have virtually excluded us from global participation.

Amidst such a distasteful and unpleasant situation, our export proceeds, although showing rising trends, do not permit us to heave a sigh of relief because

imports have shot up to a breath-taking figure of Rs 50 billion. This very difficult position has been accentuated further by our sky-high trade deficit having reached a staggering figure of Rs 33 billion, during the last fiscal year, which leaves us speechless and dumbfounded.

We have a formidable potential for exports to the industrialised world, but we are out of tune. Among other things, we have a wide range of natural deposits, which by itself can upgrade our position to act as an important link in global interdependence, in the use of resources and thereby load the dice in our favour. For instance, the viability of the Saindak Project, in Baluchistan, has been proved to established ground value of copper and associated mineral deposits at an estimated 9.3 billion dollars. So is the case, more or less, with many other minerals. The trouble with us is we expect returns overnight for our investments, when what we really need is patience, initiative and drive, courage and professionalism, to plan and execute sophisticated development projects, with the available resources at hand, by a team of dedicated and skilled workers, shouldering their responsibilities with honour and dignity.

Our preparation of feasibility reports of major projects, their sanction and obtaining loans from world agencies, are slow moving machines, with stoppages and breakdowns. The implementation of the projects, therefore, runs into decades.

Lack of foresight, has ended up in many showdowns, including the power crisis. Generation capacity was allowed to remain static for many years, while power consumption was steadily on the increase, resulting in shortfalls running into many hundred Megawatts. Vital power connections had to be deferred to indefinite periods. The camel was then loaded with the proverbial last straw, by way of power pilferages on a large scale and unauthorised use of power gone undetected. Meanwhile, the suppliers kept clamouring for increase in basic tariff, on the plea that fuel charges are adjusted on the basis of additional cost. Those concerned, conveniently keep their eyes and ears shut, to the music that goes on.

It is interesting to note that in our country, every Government taking over seems to inherit a perilous economic situation, from its predecessor, leaving no room to manoeuvre, until the next Government takes over. It is, indeed, a sad commentary. With the top of the ladder yet many steps to climb and our production at lowable our demand seems to increase more rapidly than plans could visualise.

There is need to set a policy course towards revitalising our economy with increased emphasis on sustained growth of output and curb imbalances in infra-structural investment, to accelerate economic growth and promote industries based on indigenous raw material and development export-oriented industries. Our resources lie extensively unutilised due to want of technology, expertise and investment. The trickledown effect of recovery would remain inconsequential. Development plans should be based on stable export earnings. This calls for adoption of measures to remove the causes hampering the trend of our exports. Lack of organised marketing and inadequate facilities of transportation, pack-age and storage, slow down our exports.

The presentation of bright pictures of the growth of production, based on doubtful statistics, will not serve any purpose. While in the case of some, their best achievement has been to move away from success after taking a few purposeful strides, there are others looking for investment avenues which guarantee them a high margin of profit, a quick turnover and tax-free income. There is also a group, which would leave no stone unturned, as and when, an opportunity arises, in Jeopardising the economic interests of the country. The world gets hold of them through their ambitions, sooner or later, and forces them to pay a heavy price. Also, a growing tendency, has been noticed, for goods to be produced of a quality that no one, except those living far below the normal standards, would like to use. If such activity is allowed to grow beyond limits, our export market will have lost a good bit of its punch, it will deplete our revenues and impose an intolerable burden on an already overtaxed community.

Natural Resources

In spite of all the benefits of our limited natural resources, for some unintelligible reason, we remain deeply engrossed in procedural matters, unable to develop many of our products, even to the point of self-sufficiency, while our brotherly country, like Japan, having to depend on the import of its raw material, has used technology, as a springboard, to give new dimensions to its economic growth. Its vast expansion, more rapidly than the mind could visualise of export-oriented industries, has captured a competitive world market, carrying the hallmark of class, as its quality of performance. This should be considered as something most remarkable. It should also act as a shining example to inspire us with confidence, to join the race, in order to gain a significant lead in the present era dominated by modern technology.

The urgent need, therefore, is for the encouragement of a genuine investment activity. We must pool our technical and financial resources and attract commercial investments through co-financing. We must evolve an effective action programme for our agricultural and industrial development and give a demonstrable proof of our determination to carry it out. A definite guideline in this respect would help setting a standard applicable to all cases.

CSO: 4600/882

DAULTANA WARNS ABOUT 'EXPLOSIVE' SITUATION, RECOMMENDS DIALOGUE

Karachi DAWN in English 25 Aug 83 p 1

[Text]

LAHORE, Aug 24: Pakistan is heading towards an "explosion" and still it is not too late to save the country for which a dialogue should be initiated by the Government with the politicians. There is only one way left now to keep the country intact and to avert "revolution," and that is only through democratic principles prescribed by the Quaid-i-Azam.

These views were expressed by Mian Mumtaz Daultana while expressing his views on the existing internal situation of the country.

The elder politician, who remained a part of Pakistan movement and a close associate of the Quaid-i-Azam, was commenting on the situation, at the Lahore Press Club's programme "Tajzia" (Analysis) here on Wednesday.

Mr. Daultana, in his about 150-minute analysis of the country's situation, repeatedly drew attention of the people at the helm of affairs towards an early solution of the existing state of affairs through what he described giving "a sense

of security and a sense of participation" to the smaller provinces.

He said no one was "unpatriotic" in this country, but the people living in smaller provinces were finding themselves "unsatisfied."

Mr. Daultana was of the opinion that it was the sole responsibility of the Government to start negotiations with the politicians and not vice versa. The initiative taken by politicians had already ended in misunderstandings, he added.

Naming President Zia-ul-Haq, Mr. Daultana said he should take the first step forward.

He said a sense of selflessness should prevail on both the sides, while taking into account the national affairs, as one would only be able to live in Pakistan if the country remained intact.

Explaining his point, Mian Sahib said, the second way out, other than the negotiations, was the path towards "revolution" and nothing else.

Before labelling anyone as "terrorists", etc., the authorities should first analyse the situation in depth,

he added.

According to Mr. Daultana, discontentment and anti-state activities were basically two separate issues.

Discussing the form of government the Quaid-i-Azam wanted, but which could not materialise due to his death, Mr. Daultana said unfortunately the reins of the country later went in the hands of bureaucracy and that was the end of 'democratic process' in Pakistan.

Mr. Daultana gave a full background of Pakistan movement, the establishment of Pakistan and the circumstances which later developed, but was unable to tell what role he could play in the present situation.

However, he said Pakistan was established for a free and separate homeland for Muslims and to set up a "laboratory for the revival of Islam." To support his assertion, he quoted from the speech of the Quaid-i-Azam at the first constituent assembly at Karachi.

MRD MOVEMENT CRITICIZED

Karachi DAWN in English 26 Aug 83 p 5

[Text]

MULTAN, Aug 25: Provincial Law and Education Minister Ch. Abdul Ghafoor said here today that the so-called movement started by some people in the country after announcement of a clear time-frame for returning the country to democratic government was a clear negation of democracy.

He said while talking to newsmen that there was no justification for such a movement after the President's announcement regarding the election plan.

In Lahore Pir Mohammad Ashraf, Member, Majlis-i-Shoora, has appealed to the leaders of all political parties to organise their workers and earnestly prepare for the coming general elections keeping national interest above everything else.

Istehkam-i-Pakistan Council, Gujrati Para, Shahi Bazar, and Latifabad in Hyderabad have condemned the elements which were trying to disturb peaceful conditions in the country.

In a signed joint Press statement Istekham-i-Pakistan Council, Gujrati Para Joint Secretary, Ibrahim Khan Qaimkhani, and Convener, Latifabad No 12 Mr Hafeezuddin,

and Mr Aziz Afghani, and Convener Shahi Bazar, Mr W. Sheikh, said these elements were out to disturb the peaceful process for restoration of democracy.

The Istehkam-i-Pakistan Council at a meeting held yesterday under the chairmanship of Hafiz Mohammad Taqi Member Federal Council, said it would not accept any postponement of the forthcoming local body polls.

The Council expressed concern over agitational activities launched by influential "waderas" in the interior of Sind to sabotage the programme announced by the President for the restoration of democracy and introducing a socio-economic order based on Islam.

Sardar Allah Bakhsh Jalbani, Member Federal Council from Larkana, has condemned the MRD for launching disruptive movement in the country and blocking the path to democracy.

LAHORE: The Zia Himayat Tehrik on Thursday strongly criticised the elements engaged in violence and subversive activities and held that such elements could not be considered well-wishers of the country and the nation.

Addressing a news conference, the Vice-Chairman, ZHT, Lahore, Gul Mohammad Zafar said President Zia-ul-Haq had already announced a programme for restoration of democracy and appealed to the patriotic and peace loving people to create circumstances suitable for holding peaceful and fair elections.

Answering a question, he said his party would persuade the MRD people to desist from violence but would offer no resistance in their way.—APP/PPI.

CSO: 4600/883

DIVISIONS WITHIN MRD EXAMINED; MISUSE OF FUNDS ALLEGED

Rawalpindi HURMAT in Urdu 15-28 Jul 83 pp 23-25

[Column by Ikram Ghazi: "Letter from Karachi--Rift Increasing Within the Ranks of MRD"]

[Excerpts] At the present time efforts are fully underway to make Karachi the center of activities of MRD [Movement for the Restoration of Democracy]. In this connection all the political leaders and parties are considered to belong to Karachi. Some of these parties are really capable of helping the people to some extent, but most of them are limited to their leaders. How do these one-leader parties function? How do they get their funds, what are their expenses and how are the expenses of the leaders are met? Well, some wealthy people provide financial help and this is how their expenses are met. There are even quarrels within the ranks of the MRD over financial issues because the leaders refuse to account for the funds collected on behalf of MRD.

The question that now arises concerns the nature of the work that MRD will be able to perform among the masses and what arrangements are being made for conducting civil disobedience movement, black day, protest demonstrations and rallies and for courting arrests. All these activities require the utmost discipline, honesty, sincerity and courage, but here within the ranks of MRD it is quite a different story. There are allegations and counter-allegations about petty cash.

Similarly the fact that the leaders of MRD are suspicious of one another is an open secret. Calling one another or considering one another government agent has become the order of the day. In this connection the names of Mairaj Mohammad Khan, Khwaja Khairuddin, Iqbal Haidar and Nafees Siddiqui are being specially mentioned. The condition within their respective parties reveals the fact that not only the money required for the activities of the parties but also their own expenses depend entirely on external assistance. In addition, the attitude of the defunct Tahrik-e Istiqlal toward MRD seems to have undergone a change and this can be explained in a number of ways. Members of the defunct People's Party are very displeased with Air Marshal Asghar Khan's book "Generals in Politics." They say that the book is not so much against generals as it is against Bhutto and the defunct People's Party. They bitterly criticize it and

say this is the reason they cannot get along with the defunct Tahrik-e Istiqlal. On the other hand the heavy influx of special rightwing groups into the defunct Tahrik-e Istiqlal has virtually drawn it toward another direction. The present situation is that pro-Chinese leftwing elements have now made their way into the defunct Tahrik-e Istiqlal, whereas the pro-Russian leftwing continues to retain its grip on MRD. The inherent differences between these groups have also given rise to deep-rooted dissension among the two parties.

Renowned PIA labor leader Tufail Abbas, known as a communist party ticket holder, has joined the defunct Tahrik-e Istiqlal together with his supporters. With the return of some workers into the ranks of Tahrik-e Istiqlal, its active leadership has started believing that it has gained in stature and that as an independent party it is now in a position to do much more and that, according to Asghar Khan's "solo flight" concept, the members of the party should work together as a team and enjoy the fruits of politics all by themselves. In this connection it may be pointed out that internal friction between leftwing leaders J.A. Rahim and Mushir Ahmad Pesh Imam has become a source of constant unrest. Tahrik-e Istiqlal has played a conspicuous role in underscoring disagreements over MRD's 31 points. Khwaja Khairuddin appears pleased by the manner in which the various nationalities in Pakistan are discussed in MRD's 31-point program. The defunct Tahrik-e Istiqlal had openly announced its opposition to the points about nationalities, and difficulties have already been created for Sher Baz Mazari also. MRD had molded its program to integrate Ghaus Bakhsh Bizenjo's Pakistan National Party. But when the National Party saw that MRD was prepared to concede this much, it became a little more obstinate with the hope of making MRD give in much more and mold its charter to suit PNP goals. But the 31-point program started creating rifts within MRD and thus, to save itself from fragmentation for the time being, changes were brought about in the 31 points and the word "nationalities" was substituted by "federations." But the matter does not seem to end here.

MRD, getting tired of reproaches from its own members and others, finally worked out a program for doing something. Under this program a pledge has been taken to start a civil disobedience movement on 14 August. All these actions demand courage, planning and funds. As far as courage is concerned, the top leaders of MRD have left the country on various pretexts and those remaining behind have applied for visas, and still others have booked hospital rooms.

Iamiatul Ulema-e Islam group within the ranks of MRD has unanimously decided to take lukewarm attitude towards MRD until August. In other words, it has decided to remain politically inactive. Thus, one component group of MRD has ceased to function politically. Leaders of the defunct People's Party have gone abroad. There is very little that Mairaj Mohammad, Khwaja Khairuddin and Iabal Haidar can do. If they manage to put their own house in order they will be helping coming generations. It is obvious that they cannot do anything for the nation. The only person worth mentioning who is left behind is Sher Baz Mazari, who has been

burdened with all the responsibilities. Operating the MRD, keeping it together and keeping his own party united are the significant problems facing him today. Sher Baz Mazari is said to be up against Wali Khan on the leadership issue these days, and various reasons can be put forward to explain this confrontation. One reason is that Sher Baz Mazari is a Pakistani at heart. In the pro-Soviet policy he does not wish to go as far as Wali Khan and company. Secondly, according to the Wali Khan group, he is not a genuine Pathan or Baluch but is a Punjabi. Thirdly, some of the enthusiastic workers of MRD allege that he is a 'Sardar' [chief] and as such he does not have anything to do with democracy. So they say that Wali Khan, the popular man among the masses, should be the leader. Anyway, Sher Baz Mazari, on account of his noble character, patience and special characteristics, is trying to get the party out of a difficult phase in its history. Sher Baz Mazari has friendly relations with leaders of other parties outside MRD. Wali Khan's statements and allegations against Jamaat-e Islami have perturbed Sher Baz Mazari since he has personal relations with Prof Ghafoor and is trying to salvage the situation. But NDP's Wali group has been drifting so far away from the Jamaat that it appears it will become impossible for Sher Baz Mazari to bring them close together. The coming phase could create still more difficulties for him. The program announced by MRD appears to be doomed to failure and all these failures are bound to affect him because he is at present in charge of the party. A hostile atmosphere is being created against him. The provincial convention arranged by MRD on 10 June, as expected, failed to achieve success, MRD officials throughout Sind were invited for the occasion, and about 60,000 rupees were allocated for this convention. The number of MRD officials and participants who attended the convention was very disappointing. But a party spokesman expressed satisfaction saying it was an exercise for assembling the MRD officials together. They say that irrespective of the number of officials who arrived from Sind, it was still a matter of satisfaction. All the same, displeasure is being expressed privately at the way accounts were handled for the funds collected for the convention, because the individuals concerned are not turning over the accounts. On the other hand Makhdoom Khaliquzzaman, who was entrusted with making arrangements for collecting funds for black day and the civil disobedience movement from landlords in the interior of Sind met with failure. The defunct People's Party, in accordance with its special regulations, has limited the donations by former members of national and provincial assemblies to 1,000 rupees each. A considerable number of members in the Advisory Council and Sind Council also belong to the People's Party. The amount they have been asked to donate has also been limited to 1,000 rupees. But due to special interests and the disposition of these individuals it is becoming increasingly difficult to collect funds for use against the government. Mr Khaliquzzaman, despite these conditions, is striving to collect funds, but how much he will be able to collect is another matter. Political workers in the People's Party are saying that money donated by Party members should be given exclusively to party workers in the event they are arrested and that workers of other parties should not have any share in these funds. Similar thinking also prevails among NDP members as well. This is explained

by the fact that of all the parties constituting MRD, People's Party and NDP are the only two parties that are capable of doing something. The other parties in MRD depend on funds of the other parties. Just as it is difficult for MRD to collect funds for those expected to be sent to jails, spending the money is equally a difficult problem. The proverbial saying that before a city could be built it was sacked by plunderers is becoming more and more true in the case of MRD plans that are foiled even before they can be implemented. The Central Committee of the MRD is confused at this aspect of expenditure and collection of funds and ascertaining the party to which a worker belongs while distributing funds is becoming a major problem.

In spending collective funds every party will try to obtain a larger share of money by claiming a larger number of party members. In order that one party may not become a burden on any other party, it has been suggested that parties should spend the funds that they collect. All these problems and ways of thinking indicate clearly the extent of unanimity, mutual respect and the attachment for goals existing within the ranks of MRD.

9315

CSO: 4656/231

Karachi DAWN in English 26 Aug 83 p 8

[Article by Yehia Syed]

[Text]

LONDON, Aug 25: "If one follows the graph of mass protest insofar as it can be charted over the last six years it does represent a genuine demand for political freedom", "The Times" wrote editorially.

"The Times" editorial, entitled "Pakistan's patchwork opposition", added: "Yet lines on a graph recording political agitation do not invariably move upwards. Apathy, disappointment, diversion from political interest, can all diminish as well as increase the vigour of protest."

The paper, paying handsome tributes to President Zia, said: "An onerous and unrewarding refugee problem on the frontier presented a problem that Gen Zia has handled with prudence.....this has increased his stature, though also his feeling

that he cannot relinquish his power."

"The Times" discusses Pakistan's efforts "by improving relations with India and lately by sharing in the plans for forming in South Asia a grouping akin to that of ASEAN in South-East Asia."

The editorial concludes: "Yet if one looks at the country's political scene, laced with small parties adhering to Islamic principles, or the more secular following attached to Mr Bhutto's legacy...it is hard to see the shape of the minimal unity such as democracy requires for its proper working, or such as can exact change from Gen Zia. At the moment Pakistan promises no resolution of its conflicts, either the provincial discontent or quite valid insistence on democracy."

CSO: 4600/883

PSP REJECTS POLITICAL FRAMEWORK

Karachi DAWN in English 25 Aug 83 p 12

[Text] Lahore, Aug 24: The defunct Pakistan Socialist Party (PSP) has rejected the constitutional proposals presented by the Chief Martial Law Administrator in his speech on August 12 last.

In a declaration issued from the Central Secretariat of the defunct PSP in Lahore on Wednesday observed that the 1973 Constitution was in fact abrogated and the parliamentary form of government was abandoned for ever.

In a separate statement, Mr. C. R. Aslam, President of defunct Pakistan Socialist Party, called for holding of general elections instead of the local bodies and transfer of power to the chosen representatives.

He also advised the politicians to keep the interests of all the classes in the country and accept their legitimate rights and solve their problems so that the broad masses could participate in the welfare of the people.

Converner of MRD Mr. Ehsan Wyne has called for revival of the 1973 Constitution and restoration of the democratic rights of the people.

In a statement, Mr. Ehsan Wyne who is also Acting President of the defunct National Democratic Party claimed that about 26 people were killed in Sind during the present protest campaign by the MRD. He called upon the democratic forces to join the struggle.

CSO: 4600/883

REVIEW OF FRAMEWORK PROPOSALS URGED

Karachi DAWN in English 25 Aug 83 p 12

[Text]

PESHAWAR, Aug 24: The chief of the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation League, Mr. K.H. Khurshid, has called upon President General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq to immediately review his August 12 announcement "which has been rejected by the nation."

He also asked the President to invite the representatives of defunct political parties with the precondition that ban on parties should be removed forthwith so that they should start functioning.

Addressing a Press conference here this morning Mr. Khurshid said a number of points in President's speech needed details and clarifications. Besides, whatever amendments "are required to be made in the Constitution should be done in consultation with political parties and later these ought to be regularised by the elected assembly."

He underlined the importance of continued and unhindered political process without which unpatriotic elements could not be pinpointed or controlled.

He also asked for a time-table for the process of lifting martial law, and demanded elections in Azad Kashmir "where there is no martial law nor has the constitution been suspended."

Mr. Khurshid was of the view that elections to local bodies in NWFP were not going to be fair and impartial as powerful elements in the Government were "openly interfering".

BAR LEADERS WARN OFFICIALS ON FLOGGING

Karachi DAWN in English 26 Aug 83 p 6

[Text]

LAHORE, Aug 25: Prison officials throughout the country will be prosecuted in superior courts if they executed the orders of flogging prisoners in contravention of the Whipping Ordinance of 1979.

This was announced by Mr. Afzal Haider and Mr. Manzoor Malik, Presidents of the High Court and District Bar Associations respectively, in a joint news conference in the committee room of the Bar here on Thursday afternoon.

They observed the way the flogging was enforced in the prisons and at public places was against the Ordinance.

They were of the view that the flogging could not be carried out by any "illiterate person" or a "professional criminal" nor does the law provide enforcement of the order in the extreme summer or winter weather conditions.

They said the law specifically spelled out the procedures in that the victims should not be stripped naked, nor their both hands raised above the head and tied, nor they should suffer any form of injury on their body, particularly the skin as a result of the flogging.

The ordinance, they added, had also specified the size and length of the whip to be used in flogging.

Separate cases

He said the Bar Associations have decided to file separate case against the officials of all those prisons where the law was violated in the past.

He said since the prison officials throughout the country were responsible for execution of the flogging orders and since all such prisons were judicial lock-ups, working under their respective high courts, all such matters would be taken up in those superior courts besides filing individual claims of Rs. 1 million each as damages in each case of flogging. They said other Bar Associations were also being requested to file such cases against the prison officials in the country.

They said all the Bar Associations of the country considered the flogging of political prisoners as "illegal, immoral, un-Islamic and unconstitutional."

Earlier, a meeting of the National Coordination Committee of the Lawyers, High Court and District Bar Associations decided to hold a joint meeting of all the office-bearers and members of the executive committees of the Bar Associations in the province on Aug. 30 next to chalk out their future course of action.

Earlier, Mr. Abid Hassan Minto, Chairman of the National Coordination Committee of Lawyers, criticised the statement of Mr. Nasiruddin, President of Sind High Court Bar Association, in which he accused the Lahore High Court Bar Association of on the one hand, accepting Rs 1,90,000 government grant-in-aid yearly, and on other, criticising the government policies. He said for the last two years the association had not receive any grant though it was its right.

MINISTER SAYS 'SNAGS' IN CONSTITUTION TO BE REMOVED

Karachi DAWN in English 26 Aug 83 p 11

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Aug 25: The Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Raja Mohammad Zafarul Haq, said here on Wednesday evening that the presidential announcement of August 12 would help remove snags in the constitution which had hitherto impeded the enforcement of Islamic system in the country.

Speaking as chief guest at the seventh in-service officers training course of Institute for Training in Shariah and Legal Profession, organised at the Islamic university, the Minister said that main objective of announcement was that institution be created through constitutional amendments to give effect to the 22 points evolved as the guiding principles of state policy in 1951 by the Ulema of all recognised sects of Muslims in Pakistan. These are the minimum changes to be effected in the 1973 Constitution to save the country from the future crises besides translating the Islamic aspirations of the people into reality.

He said that 22 points of 31

Ulema were no doubt made the basis of the 1956 and 1962 constitutions and formed the guiding principles of the state policy, but their implementation according to these constitutions was not made enforceable in any court in the country.

Elucidating his point, the Information Minister quoted relevant portions from the 1956, 1962 and 1973 constitutions. The Article 25 of the 1956 Constitution reads: "Steps should be taken to enable the Muslims of Pakistan, individually and collectively to order their lives in accordance with the Holy Quran and Sunnah."

The Minister said the Article 23 of the same constitution debarred the courts from enforcing its provisions. The Sub-section two of the Article 23 read: "the state shall be guided in the formulation of its policies by the provisions of this part, but such provisions shall not be enforceable in any court." Similarly the Information Minister quoted principles of policy in chapter two of the 1973 Constitution. The Article 31 of this constitution

reads as: "Steps should be taken to enable the Muslims of Pakistan, individually and collectively, to order their lives in accordance with the fundamental principles and basic concepts of Islam and to provide facilities whereby they may be enabled to understand the meaning of life according to the Holy Quran and Sunnah." But, he said that Sub-section two of Article 30 reads: "The validity of an action or of a law shall not be called in question on the ground that it is not in accordance with the principles of policy, and no action, shall lie against the State, any organ or authority of the State or any person on such ground."

The Information Minister pointed out that this had been an injustice to the nation and had been the main hurdle in the way of the practical implementation of Islamic system. He said through amendments in the constitution the present Government wanted to ensure the functioning of the Islamic system in its entirety. —PPI.

CSO: 4600/884

CHANCES FOR UNITY AMONG ISLAMIC PARTIES SAID BRIGHT

Karachi DAWN in English 26 Aug 83 p 11

[Text]

LAHORE, Aug 25: Maulana Zahid-ul-Rashdi, Central, Secretary Information of the defunct Jamiat-ul-Ulema-i-Islam, (Obaidullah group) has said there were bright chances for unity among the political parties faithful to Islamic system and democracy.

He stated this here on Wednesday after the first round of talks among leaders of the defunct Muslim League (Pagara group), the defunct Jama'at-i-Islami, defunct Jamiat-ul-Ulema-i-Pakistan and the defunct Khaksar Tehrik (Ashraf group).

He expressed satisfaction over the talks and stated the JUI would start another round of talks with the leaders of these defunct parties after which, he said, they would make arrangements for an informal meeting of the leaders of these parties so that practical prog-

ramme of co-operation could be thrashed out.

Maulana Zahid-ul-Rashdi stated that no party was in a position to launch a struggle for democracy alone.

He was commenting on the decision of the defunct JUP Central Committee to have its own way in a given situation.

He added the JUP decisions were steps in the right direction, but it would have been better if they had been taken unanimously after mutual consultation.

He said it was high time for all patriotic parties to come out and take united action for the restoration of democracy and check subversion.

He said the movement for the restoration of democratic rights could not be subdued by violence.—PPI.

CSO: 4600/884

U.S. CONGRESSIONAL TEAM VISITS REFUGEE CAMP

Karachi DAWN in English 26 Aug 83 p 21

[Text]

PESHAWAR, Aug 25: Mr. Clarence D. Long, leader of the visiting U.S. Congressional delegation, has said that the United States would continue to assist the Afghan people to regain their freedom and sovereignty.

Addressing the Afghan refugees at the Nasserbagh tentage village on the outskirts of Peshawar today, Mr. Clarence D. Long, who is Chairman of the Sub-Committee of Foreign Operations of the House Appropriations Committee, said that the United States had always upheld the cause of the Afghan people at all international forums and would continue to do so in future, too.

It was his country's endeavour to see the Afghan refugees return to their homeland with dignity and honour, he added.

Lauding the courage and fortitude, with which the Afghan people were facing foreign military intervention in their country, Mr. Clarence D. Long said that it was a matter of pride for him to meet the brave Afghans today. Their cause was just and they were bound to triumph in their struggle, he said, adding that reports of their successes were reaching the United States' people.

He said that one of his fellow Congressmen, who is also a

member of his delegation, had visited them last year and had insisted upon him to meet the Afghan refugees in Pakistan. He was glad to have met them today, he said.

Mr. Clarence D. Long also sympathised with the inmates of the refugee camp, who had to take shelter in Pakistan, under compulsion of foreign military intervention in Afghanistan. He assured them of continued humanitarian assistance.

The leader of the Congressional delegation informed the Afghan refugees that he had brought some drugs to combat the menace of tuberculosis. These drugs, he said, would be handed over to the authorities, looking after their health aspects.

Earlier, a refugee elder welcomed the US Congressmen and informed them of the conditions which forced them to leave their hearths and homes. He talked of the cruelties being perpetrated on the Afghan people and said that the Soviet warplanes, tanks, and guns were all being used to suppress the determined struggle of the Afghan people for freedom and sovereignty.

He, however, declared that the Afghan people would never surrender and continue their struggle till victory, irrespective of the sacrifices, they would have to give.

Later, the US Congressmen flew to Landikotal by helicopter. On way to Landikotal, they had an aerial view of the historic Khyber Pass. They visited the Khyber Rifles Officers' Mess in Landikotal, where they were also entertained to luncheon.

The leader of the delegation was presented crest of the Khyber Rifles by its Commandant, Lt.-Col. Azmat Riaz, as a memento of the Congressmen's visit to Landikotal.

The US Congressmen also witnessed traditional tribal Khat-tak dance, before flying back to Peshawar. From where, they left for Islamabad by air.

Meanwhile, the lady members of the delegation led by Mrs. Clarence D. Long, visited the ICRC Hospital, where Afghan refugees were being treated.

The lady members met the Afghan patients admitted to the Hospital and inquired about various details pertaining to their injuries.

They also visited the Artificial Limbs Section of the Hospital.

Earlier, on their arrival at the Peshawar airport, the US Congressional delegation members were greeted by the Provincial Senior Minister, Arbab Jehangir Khan. He also bade farewell to them.—APP.

PAKISTAN NOT TO ASK FOR FRESH IMF SUPPORT

Karachi DAWN in English 26 Aug 83 p 24

[Article by John Elliot]

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Aug 25: The Government of Pakistan has decided that the country's balance of payments position is sufficiently strong for it not to need to ask the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for fresh support during the current financial year. An existing \$1.5bn (£1bn) three years extended facility runs out in November.

President Zia-ul-Haq's regime does not want to have to introduce new IMF-imposed policies which might be unpopular at a politically sensitive time. It also feels that Pakistan's balance of payments performance is strong enough to survive without the help of the Fund, which made it introduce unpopular pricing and subsidy policies as a condition of the present facility.

Foreign exchange reserves have more than doubled during the past year from \$780m in June, 1982, to \$1.75bn, now, which is a record figure. This total covers more than three months' import and compares with a total of only \$342m when the IMF's present facility was negotiated in 1980.

But Pakistan's current account trade balance remains in deep deficit. Exports in 1982-1983 amounted to \$2.6bn while imports stood at \$5.5bn, leaving a deficit of \$2.9bn. This was offset by income of \$2.8bn in remittances from Pakistanis working abroad.

Progress in the country's economy is, however, believed to have been confirmed by a team from the IMF which visited Is-

lamabad to check the Government's figures and policies.

The sharp improvement in the reserves has been partly caused by the floating of the rupee, whose traditional link with the dollar was broken in January, 1982. Since then, the value of the rupee has dropped 23 per cent against the dollar, 16.4 per cent against the Japanese yen, 13 per cent against the Deutsche mark and 7 per cent against sterling.

Exports of Pakistan's grain surplus and of some manufactured items (especially synthetic textiles) have begun to improve. The purchase of imported goods has declined because of higher prices.

The changing value of the rupee has also helped to boost remittances from expatriate Pakistanis who provide the country's economy with an essential prop. Contrary to fears earlier in the year, the remittances from almost 3m overseas workers rose in the financial year from July 1982 to June 1983 to a monthly average of \$240m, compared with \$191m a year earlier. The monthly total for last month, at the start of the current financial year, was higher at \$250m.

Because dollars sent back to Pakistan brought more rupees following the exchange rate changes. It is assumed that overseas workers increased their remittances. The number of Pakistanis working abroad, mainly in the Middle East, is also believed to have increased, involving a greater proportion of semi-skilled as opposed to unskilled workers. —Dawn-FT Service

ECONOMIC POLICY ANALYZED; LAND REFORM TERMED ESSENTIAL

Lahore VIEWPOINT in English 18 Aug 83 pp 26-27, 32

[Text]

NO FURIOUS onslaught at the Group 83 seminar on the Sixth Plan on Wednesday (August 10), but bit by bit the draft Plan was, in the words of Mr. M.L. Qureshi, 'torn to pieces'. Dr. Mahbubul Haq, who had earlier promised to attend the seminar, could not make it on account of "urgent Shooru and Cabinet commitments." Seminar Chairman M.L. Qureshi was loath to see the Planning Minister condemned unheard and, therefore, took upon himself the role of the defence counsel. However, he soon confessed that he "held no brief" for the Planning Commission and fell into the more comfortable role of the counsel for the prosecution.

Two papers were presented at the seminar — one by Mr. M. Masud Khaddarposh and the other by Mr. Shahid Kardar. Both offered food for thought to the planners. But far more relevant to the discussion on the Plan were the comments made by a number of speakers. Contrary to the practice hitherto followed at Group 83 seminars, many experts had been requested to prepare their comments on the Plan draft in advance and some of them had done so with diligence.

Concretely, there was a consensus that land reform was the key to any worthwhile planning. In his opening remarks Mr. A. H. Kardar introduced Mr. M. Masud's paper on land reform by giving the gist of it and tagging on to it "a very simple way to get rid of landlordism without legislation." All that was needed was to insert an ineligibility clause in the election rules, barring anyone owning 25 acres

or more of land from contesting election. (Mr. M. Masud said Mr. Kardar had stolen 'my thunder' although the audience found the Hari Committee dissenter none the worse off.)

Publish the agreements

Dr. Mubashir Hasan made four points. Firstly, he contended that the authors of the Plan had failed to take into consideration an essential prerequisite to a Plan's success — people's participation. Secondly, he forcefully argued that the draft Plan was not a Pakistani Plan. It had been drafted in accordance with objectives (growth rate, targets for private sector, etc.) and tactics (structural adjustments, lending policies, service-charge tariff, etc.) handed down by outsiders and accepted by Islamabad years ago. The Plan was designed to serve foreign interests. Thirdly, he said the size of the Plan (in real terms) was much too small to solve the people's pressing problems. Fourthly, Pakistan's national interest could not be served unless the people's rights were restored.

Dr. Mubashir Hasan said that he had expressed these views in print many weeks earlier but no reply had been offered by the establishment and he was justified in assuming that silence signified admission of the veracity of his charges. The matter could be clinched, he said, if the Government would only publish the texts of its agreements with foreign governments, the IMF and the World Bank, which, incidentally, were known to all the IMF-member States.

Prof. M. Rashid confined his attack on the Plan to the lack of a

fair income distribution policy. He said the authors of the Plan had measured growth inaccurately and arbitrarily. In the existing system, growth worked out on the basis of average per capita income meant a widening of the gap between rich and poor. While the Plan did give an estimate of increase in national income over the next five years, it gave no indication as to in whose pockets the additional income would go. He appealed to the Planning Commission to prepare and publish data on household incomes. The existing system of tax collection and state expenditure was regressive in the extreme. Its efficiency lay only in "transferring wealth from those who have not to those who have."

Dr. Akmal Husain said the question of the origin of the Plan ideas had been dealt with by Dr. Mubashir Hasan and so he would not dwell on that. He wanted the people to see whether the Plan's objectives were matched by adequate policy packages. The Plan began with a grandiose declaration about "development of the people, for the people, by the people" but one found no sign of the fundamental institutional changes that this goal required. The Plan had very limited policy options. The new slogan was 'redistribution with growth' but there was no strategy to realise this goal. For instance, the benefits of the strategy of agricultural development would go to the bigger landlords. He also emphasised the urgency of land reform.

Mr. Hasan Habib attacked the Plan for its omission of any reference to the need for effective administrative institutions and pleaded for a reorganisation of the planning process.

Mr. A.U. Lone sharply criticised the Plan strategy for energy development which could never solve the country's crisis. Instead of wasting money on new exploratory wells it was necessary to develop the already discovered resources. The energy crisis had been created by Government's flabbiness and the manipulation of companies who were delaying development in order to negotiate better well-head prices.

Malik Wazir Ali agreed with Dr. Mubashir Hasan that Pakistan had not only yielded to IMF/IBRD in the economic field but had also compromised its political independence. A

great constraint on economic planning was the heavy burden of expenditure on armed forces, which left little to be allocated to welfare. A bigger constraint was imposed by political bondage. Foreign interests exploited the situation through their allies in the civil and military bureaucracy, and feudal and industrial elites. Finally, technocrats could never be trusted with economic planning; this task could be performed only by politicians.

Mr. Masud Hasan pleaded for linkage between planning and execution and declared that knowledge was the main resource. He found mistakes of fact in the Plan draft unpardonable.

His own services

Dr. Anwar Iqbal Qureshi, a former Economic Adviser, gave more time to a resume of his services to the country than to a review of the Plan draft but had no hesitation in declaring that the Plan would not succeed. If Dr. Mahbul Haq only read Darling, mounted a horse and went round some villages, he would himself realise his hopeless situation (even if the mount was docile), he said.

Mr. Nazar Mohammad Chaudhri pleaded for giving priority to education and observing 1984 as the year of Education. He said the rural population had been ignored all these years. It was not only illiterate but was also not interested in acquiring education.

Summing up, Mr. M.L. Qureshi, criticised the common tendency to find a scapegoat. The Plan should be examined on merits, he said. The main thrust of the Plan was to ameliorate the lot of the rural population. "Who is responsible for keeping the villagers poor and backward?" he asked, and answered, "we, we the elites." He thought it was unfair to attack Dr. Haq for the existing situation. He had inherited it from X, who had inherited it from Y, who had inherited it from Z. Fortunately, dinner had been served, otherwise the blame could have easily been hurled back to the Mughals for losing out to the British.

Land reform

In his paper, "Abolition of landlordism and the sixth plan," Mr. M. Masud said:

The weakness common to all the plans, including the present one is that they do not give due priority to the agricultural sector. The man who contributes so much to the national economy is completely ignored by the Five-Year Plan.

It is a fair question to ask: How can landlordism be a drag on the execution of the Plan? The answer is: "Landlordism has not really been abolished, whatever the law on paper may be. It has been curtailed in items of acreage but it is very much there as a system, an institution of fear and exploitation."

I am convinced that no plan of meeting the basic needs of our people, which Dr. Haq is promoting, can be achieved in a society which denies basic human dignity to the tillers of the soil. The only way out of our predicament is to free our society from the clutches of the feudals and restore human dignity to our rural population.

The issue of Land Reforms has been in the forefront of national politics ever since the birth of Pakistan. The tragedy of East Pakistan can be ascribed to a large extent to the failure of Pakistan Government to solve this issue.

The crisis became acute when, in the 1970 elections, the Bengalis won 56 per cent of the seats in the Central Legislature. Not only that the Manifesto of the Awami League as well as the draft Constitution prepared by it contained a clear provision in regard to the wholesale abolition of big landed estates and Jagirs in Pakistan. This terribly upset the landlords of the West who had become more powerful as the top civil servants and the military officers had also turned into landlords by the generous land grants of the Ayub regime. Consequently, a democratic settlement in 1971 between the two Wings had become impossible.

Ayub Khan and Bhutto introduced land reforms to placate public opinion in the West but they did not prohibit absentee landlordism nor did they prohibit the leasing of land. No land reforms could make sense without these basic measures.

It has been the concern of all societies in the world to ensure that the tillers of the soil enjoy free and fearless occupation of it so that they

can feel proud of their homes. It has, therefore, been agreed by the experts all over the world that ownership of land based on personal possession and cultivation is the best way of life and the only civilised mode of living.

The contradictions which existed between the East and West Pakistan in the matter of land-ownership are visible even in the provinces of present Pakistan. The land ownership pattern of the Frontier, Baluchistan and Sind provinces on the one hand, and of the province of the Punjab on the other, where small farmers are in majority, show a conspicuous disparity. Therefore, a proper solution of the land problem is of utmost importance. Only by a uniform radical land reform in the whole of Pakistan, can the presentday tension between the provinces and tension between the tillers of the soil and the big land-owners be effectively reduced. The question of land-reforms should be given top priority in our national planning for the sake of integration and preservation of what is left of Pakistan.

Mr. Shahid Kardar presented an abstract of a detailed paper which was distributed among the participants as a printed monograph. He first identified the economic problems confronting the country as: demographic growth indicating a swelling up of the labour ranks; pressure of women job-seekers; rapid urbanisation; low rate of savings; balance of payments problems; heavy reliance on external assistance; the need for greater expenditure on the development of human capital; and the increase in absolute numbers of those in dire poverty.

Examining the Plan strategy, Mr. Shahid Kardar said heavy reliance had been placed on growth in the agriculture sector. This growth was expected to be achieved through increase in yields per acre on the smaller farms and this was proposed to be realised by accelerating the rate of mechanisation, provision of cheap farm credit, and by building rural infrastructure. But rural sector was not likely to gain from tractorisation. Credit and input facilities would be gobbled up by bigger farmers. Besides, the existing irrigation facilities could not support new technologies. "The fundamental hindrance to widespread growth in the agriculture sector is the unequal distribution of land," he said.

As regards industry, Mr. Shahid Kardar said the Plan emphasised the private sector's role "within the framework of social responsibility" but did not say how this framework was expected to materialise. As compared to the sixties, the scope for import substitution was much less. The Government's and the IMF's desire to deregulate the economy and other allied measures could lower the Government revenues and result in higher indirect taxation, lowering of subsidies and introduction of user charges.

What changes?

On the question of financing of the Plan, the speaker noted the failure to deal with the blackmarket and tax evasion. Agriculture (accounting for 30% of the GDP) was practically not taxed — it yielded only Rs. 220 million in land revenue — while manufacturing sector (18% of the GDP) yielded Rs. 3,300 million. Heavy indirect taxation caused social hardships. But this was the dictate of the IMF/IBRD who were imposing

"structural changes" on Pakistan. "..... the 'structural reform' is being sought gradually and insiduously as its implementation does not have a consensus within society."

The litmus test of any economic policy must be the contribution it made to the alleviation of human misery, he said. Different studies had shown that over 35% of the rural (and 30% the urban) population was poor as against 40% in the late sixties. The slight fall was due mainly to remittances. Adequate measures were not suggested in the Plan to end poverty.

In conclusion, Mr. Shahid Kardar said that radical land reform was imperative for a widespread growth of the agriculture sector. This would also widen the consumer base. A conscious and genuine attempt at promoting labour intensive technology was required. The agriculture sector will have to be improved, and expenditure on defence will have to be reduced drastically. However, "all the factors referred to above are political and may be impossible to implement within the existing socio-economic structure."

BRIEFS

PDP LEADER REJECTS NEW FRAMEWORK--Multan, Aug 24: Leader of defunct Pakistan Democratic Party, Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan, has said the political structure proposed by the present government was in the real sense an attempt to perpetuate its own rule. The Nawabzada, in the statement issued through his son Nawabzada Mansoor Ahmad Khan, has further said he himself has rejected this political structure as purely against the aspirations of the people. The PDP chief who is in detention at his residence (sub-jail) in Khangarh town of Muzaffargarh district, has expressed satisfaction over the MRD movement and hoped that it would prove a success. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 25 Aug 83 p 12]

LEADERS MOVED TO GHARO--Mr Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi and three other top leaders of the MRD detained under MLO-78 have been shifted from Karachi to a rest house in Gharo (Thatta District). The other three are: Khwaja Khairuddin, Mr Mumtaz Ali Bhutto, and Mr Mairaj Mohammad Khan. For this purpose, the Gharo Rest House has been declared a "sub-jail", reliable sources said. They were detained for a period of 90 days each. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 26 Aug 83 p 1]

JOINT VENTURES WITH KOREA--Negotiations and discussions are currently going on for more joint ventures and technical collaboration between Pakistan and the Republic of Korea (ROK) in the fields of electronics, electrical appliances, automobile parts, pharmaceutical products, polyester, fertilizer, tractors and steel down-stream industries, Mr. Kuan Seop Jin Deputy Consul-General of the Republic of Korea, said yesterday at a luncheon meeting of Rotary Club of Karachi Mid-town. He said, joint ventures in fields, such as, pharmaceutical, petro-chemical, electronics, fishing or fishing boat building were either in operation or basic agreements relating to them had been made. Applications of a number of Pakistani banks to open branches in the Republic of Korea were under study. He said the volume of trade had also increased from Rs. 909 million in 1980-81 to Rs. 1,390 million in 1981-82. He was hopeful that eventually the case of Republic of Korea-Pakistan cooperation may be presented as a model of such South-South cooperation. He said as a result of sustained efforts by the Korean people, ROK's per capita GNP rose to 1,671 dollars last year and from a mere 67 and 100 dollars in 1953 and 1962 respectively.-PPI. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 26 Aug 83 p 18]

ZIA HIMAYAT TEHRİK RENAMED--Zia Himayat Tehrik has been renamed as Pakistan Ittehad Tehrik, says a Press release. When the attention of President Zia-ul-Haq was drawn to the Zia Himayat Tehrik during his recent visit to Karachi, he had said that it should be renamed to avoid misunderstanding as he had nothing to do with it, the Press release said. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 26 Aug 83 p 18]

NOTICES SERVED TO PNA LEADERS--Legal notices have been sent to nine leaders of the then PNA by a local advocate, Mr Ansar Burney, for creating a "grave national crisis and constitutional breakdown" leading to the imposition of Martial Law. Notices sent to Air Marshal (rtd) M. Asghar Khan, Khan Abdul Wali Khan, Sardar Sher Baz Mazari, Maulana Shah Ahmad Noorani, Nawabzada Nasrullah Khan, Mian Tufail Mohammad, Khan Mohammad Ashraf Khan, and Maulana Fazlur Rahman allege that they were responsible for the "erosion of the then government's constitutional authority" and creating a situation of "national crisis and political anarchy". The notices reveal that a total of 4,553 processions including 248 by women, 92 by the members of the legal profession, 18 by Ulema, 248 by students, and 57 by children were taken out during the PNA movement in early 1977 and resulted in 250 deaths (241 civilians) and injuries to 1726 others including 1,195 civilians. There were 162 cases of sabotage and arson resulting in damage to 18 installations, 74 shops, 58 banks, 1622 vehicles, seven hotels, 11 cinemas, 56 public and private offices, and 27 railway bogies. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 25 Aug 83 p 6]

AGITATION BY MRD CRITICIZED--Begum Mahmooda Sultana, Member, Majlis-i-Shoora, also condemned the acts of lawlessness, sabotage, looting and arson being committed under cover of the so-called movement for restoration of democracy. In a statement she said that a handful of "power-hungry" politicians had again conspired to bring the people in confrontation with each other just to create chaos and confusion in the country, for their motive to seek power. In Lahore Sahabzada Faizul Qadari, Information Secretary of the former Pakistan National Alliance, Punjab, has said that to describe the present agitation of the so-called MRD as a struggle for restoration of democracy was contrary to reality because some elements in it were those who were responsible for the blatant massacre of democracy in the past. In a Press statement here today, he said, these elements had also wrecked the democratic institutions and had founded fascism by introducing violence in politics. Khwaja Ghulam Ali, President, Anjuman Tajran Dalgaran, Niswari Bazar and representatives of other trade associations in Rawalpindi have also condemned the subversive activities of certain elements.--APP-PPI [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 25 Aug 83 p 6]

TALHAR WOMEN'S PROCESSION--Hyderabad, Aug 24: A women's procession was taken out at Talhar demanding immediate release of Miss Benazir Bhutto and restoration of democratic process in the country. The slogan-chanting processionists also threw bangles on male spectators and called them "cowards." Processions were also taken out in support of MRD movement and condemning police excess on MRD workers at Hala, Tandojam, Mirpur Mathelo, Badin, Maher, Tando Bago and Tando Ghulam Ali. [Text] [Karachi DAWN in English 25 Aug 83 p 6]

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